

COMMUNITY connections

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF NEW YORK
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Growing Souls, Doing Justice, and Being Bold in a Caring Community since 1825

Issue 46 • Feb./Mar. 2012

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Organ Restoration Project At Community Church – February Pledge Time

by Leonore Tiefer

- Our beloved *Madeleine Hosmer Holmes Organ* is being refurbished after 50+ years of tireless service.
- It will sound *like a million bucks* when it comes back!
- But we need to pledge *generously* to cover the cost (which is actually only \$240,000)
- During January and February each of us will receive a call from a member of the *Organ Restoration Project* committee to discuss our pledge (to be paid over a 3 year period) to the Project.
- We will receive a *commemorative pin* when we pledge and be invited to festive celebratory events in the Spring involving Madeleine Holmes's favorite recipes, Jerry Brown's favorite musical selections, and the *all-star organ rededication ceremony!!*
- All donations are of course tax deductible
- Give generously for our beloved music program, so essential to the spiritual and secular life of Community Church



HERE AT COMMUNITY

New Members

*We welcome to new members
who have joined recently:*

Kenly Dillard
Nancy Jennings
Nancie March Arnegger
Juliette Nelson
Anthony Pulgram

BIRTHDAYS

February 2012

- 1 Herbert Krampner
- 2 Margaret Daniele
- 3 Dorothy James
Hana Dolgin
- 4 Wade Hampton
Kyree Hurd
- 5 Leonore Tiefer
- 8 Raven Rosabella Stroud
- 9 Etta Green Johnson
- 12 Judith Coppock Gex
- 14 Annea Berggren-Briggs
- 17 Julien Buron
- 19 Gerard Byrne
- 20 Jamie Olivia White
Eugene Flynn
- 22 Valerie Sarris
- 23 Rosetta Pervan
Modesto Matos
- 24 Marjorie Vai
- 25 Daisy White
- 27 Natalie Webb
- 28 Kathleen Polkabila

BIRTHDAYS

March 2012

- 2 Jack Seiferth
Michael Orzechowski
- 3 Gerard McCadden
Jeff Cioletti
- 6 Jennifer Hampshire
- 7 Joseph Santiago
John Quinn
- 10 Chloe Jacobs
- 18 Dorothy Francis
- 20 Nancy Ruckes
Danielline Martinez
- 21 Marsha Peru
- 22 Tony Johnson
- 23 Felicia Sobel
- 28 Jeane Hafgren
Betty Vera
- 30 Delores Browne

IN MEMORIAM

Ed Fox passed away on December 30, 2011. Ed joined Community Church in 1964, and he was a leader with not only the Communitarians (young adults), the Social Action Committee, and RENA-COA Multi-service Center, but also the Board of Trustees (on a couple of occasions), search committees, the Music Committee, UUA General Assembly delegate, and much more. He was a mentor to Rev. Bruce Southworth when he was in seminary and throughout the years. Ed leaves behind his children Cora and Everett and their families, and his many friends at Community Church. He will be greatly missed.

Mabel Hill joined Community Church in 1981, and she was a caring presence at our Membership Table throughout the years, warmly welcoming visitors and members Sunday after Sunday, year-round. She leaves her family and countless friends. We will miss her grace, wisdom and warmth. A memorial service will be planned for March.

Alfred Gescheidt, a member of over 32 years, was a lively presence and conversationalist during Fellowship Hour. Just last August at the Social Tea, Alfred shared the story of his 60 year career in photography. He leaves his wife Joan Schiff, sons Jack and Andy, extended family and many friends. He will be greatly missed by us. A memorial service will be planned for March.

Thank you to our Silent Choir Contributors

Juanita Ambrose
Sandy Brooks
Ronald Bruce & Lisa Moser
Gerald A. Brown
Gustavo and Helen Caro
Debra Corbett
Ed Dejowski and Don Powell
Fred and Mary DeLisi
Shelia M. Dines
Linda Ermine
Ed Fox
Dorothy Francis
Sam Gale
Claudia Swett Gwardyak
Nancy Jennings
Anne Kelemen
Joel and Ellen Mandelbaum
George Marshall
Brenda Shrobe
Carolyn Soder
Bruce Southworth
Justin Vranek
Odella Washington
Kay Xanthakos

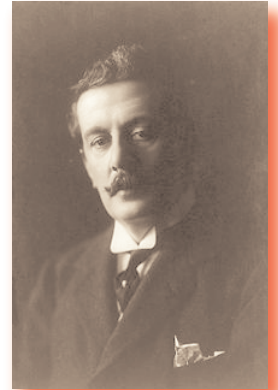
HERE AT COMMUNITY

Learning more about Madeleine Hosmer Holmes ~ and music!

by Leonore Tiefer

As part of our Organ Restoration project, I continue to look into the background of Mrs. Madeleine Holmes, late wife of our late senior minister, John Haynes Holmes. Our organ was dedicated to Mrs. Holmes before her death, and I have learned (no surprise here!) that she was a music lover. In fact, her granddaughter told me that she especially loved opera, and that the couple attended the Metropolitan Opera during the early years of their marriage. Well, since they married in 1904, you might wonder what was the Metropolitan Opera like during this period? Well, thanks to the wonders of modern technology, you can take a trip back in time to answer that question. Take a look at the delicious Met opera timeline <http://www.metoperafamily.org/metopera/history/sights/timeline.aspx> It seems that the great and flamboyant Nellie Melba premiered "La Boheme" at the Met in 1900 – it is

possible that Madeleine had the opportunity to hear Nellie Melba! (You can hear Madame Melba, too, by clicking on the Met timeline!!!). Surely she heard Enrico Caruso, who first sang at the Met in 1903 and sang many many performances! Madeleine's granddaughter told me that her favorite opera was "Madama Butterfly" and the Met timeline says that Louise Homer, Geraldine Farrar, and Enrico Caruso sang "Butterfly" at the Met in the presence of Italian composer Giacomo Antonio Domenico Michele Secondo Maria Puccini. (You can hear the two sopranos perform a duet from "Butterfly" on the Met timeline!!! Unbelievable.) Here's the dashing Puccini:



Giacomo Puccini

Upcoming Spiritual Journeys

by Brenda Carpenter Osayim

December's "spiritual journey" just happened to coincide with the first night of the Jewish celebration of Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, and with the first day of winter, which could not have been any more appropriate. It was a special evening, attended by members and friends, starting with "The Soul of Blackness," a centennial tribute to artist Romare Bearden at The Schomberg Center, followed by a mixed holiday/gospel service at the oldest (1808) African-American religious congregation in America, the Abyssinian Baptist Church. The service was a mixture of holiday offerings, including an Alvin Ailey Revelations-like ballet performance by three young ladies to live Christmas music, and lots and lots of singing and hand-clapping. As Rosie Andersen, the youngest participant on this spiritual journey noted, "They put a lot of their energy into the program, and by doing so, they boosted their moral and made the service very powerful." The evening was

capped by a dinner of smothered fried chicken, mouth-watering cornbread, collard greens to write home about, candied yams and other southern delicacies at Miss Maude's Spoonbread Restaurant on Lenox Ave. The entire evening was so exhilarating that some of us are considering making it an annual event!

Spiritual journeys for the rest of the church year will include a visit to a mosque in Brooklyn (Feb.); a luncheon and tour of Kehila Kedosha Janina, the Romaniote Greek-speaking synagogue on Broome St. (March); a visit to Louis Armstrong House and the Flushing Quaker Meeting House on Northern Blvd. (April); an outing to the Staten Island Buddhist Vihara (May); and a picnic outing to the Cloisters, including St. Cabrini's Shrine (June). For exact dates and times, please check the website, or call the Director of Lifespan Religious Education, Esther Rosado at 212.683.4988, ext. 23, to sign up.

Christmas Holiday Party

The joy of the December events at Community still linger with me. The Holiday Party was bustling with excitement as Santa paid us a visit. We were treated to two delicious soups made by **Anne Kellemen**, with the help of the entire **Ascencio Family**, **Nancy Jennings**, **Stacy Raisis**, and **Laura Ann Wilson**. The kitchen became an intergenerational activity, as Anne wielded the knife, made the soup and enchanted everyone with her stories of her life during World War II and her experiences living in a kibbutz. We are also thankful to **Wade Hampton**, **Helene Summa**, **Andy Mayberry** and **Virginia Asman** for the helping to serve the salads, soups and beverages.

In January, we not only look back but also forward. In February and March we will have some new offerings: Comparative Buddhist and Hindu Philosophy, led by Dr. Marvin Levine and another class on Karen Armstrong's book, *12 Steps to A Compassionate Life*, led by Rev. Susan Carlson, minister of Unitarian Church of Staten Island and Esther Rosado. If you have suggestions for classes, please contact Esther Rosado at erosado@ccny.org.



Photos by Esther Rosado

HERE AT COMMUNITY

Holiday Photo Gallery



Daniel, thank you for your Ministry with Community Church



Pictured clockwise from lower left: Robert Bobrick, Shay Mutter, Evan Rothfarb, Stacy Rasis, Bill Rothfarb, Rachel Stone, Leonore Teifer, Jiehong (Nina) Bobrick.

A Community Thanksgiving in Sunnyside (above)

Rachel Stone and Bill Rothfarb invited Community Church members to join them and their son Evan for Thanksgiving Dinner at Foxy's, a family-oriented restaurant on Queens Boulevard in Sunnyside, Queens. The group enjoyed a full turkey dinner with all the trimmings, including a glass of wine and dessert, and in the classic Thanksgiving tradition, even had turkey leftovers to enjoy at home the rest of the weekend.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

Fatoumata Gassama and family attend Christmas dinner at Community!

by Leonore Tiefer

Fatoumata is attending pre-GED classes this year, and despite living in a homeless shelter with all the limitations that entails, all the kids are doing well in school. The oldest, Fanta, is in her 2nd year at Brooklyn Tech high school, and Bintou took the test for specialized high schools last month. Leonore Tiefer, Christie Jeffers, Ruth Miller, Janice Marie Johnson and Diana Stewart continue their involvement with the family through the New Sanctuary Committee, and we are always looking for more participants and supporters.



Relaxing in the RE room after Christmas dinner: (l. to r.) Bintou (13), Aminata (12), Muhammed (5), mom Fatoumata, Abdou (7), Fanta (15), and Npenda (9)

Resistance Cinema Annual Holiday Party

by Russell Branca

On Sunday December 18th, **Resistance Cinema** wrapped up 2011, its 8th year of presenting stimulating documentary films, with its annual holiday party, the most elaborate yet. This year's fun film was Woody Allen's "*Bananas*" but the afternoon was further energized by music videos from Bob Marley, Musica Cubana, and Paul Simon's Africa concert featuring Hugh Masekela, Miriam Makeba, and Ladysmith Black Mambazo – all playing through the new sound system in the Gallery.

Of course after the film, the center of attention was the delicious buffet offered, also the most elaborate yet. The feast included shrimp, chicken, fish, platters of vegetables with guacamole, hummus and chips, rice, beans, wine, cheese, and an assortment of cakes, cookies, fruits, and other sweets.

And how did all this come together? In addition to the RC steering committee of Russell Branca, Connie Dondore, Lawrene Groobert, Karen Hoover, Nydia Leaf, and Diane Mason, many many thanks go out to Esther Rosado, Maureen Holder, Linda Novenski, Sandy



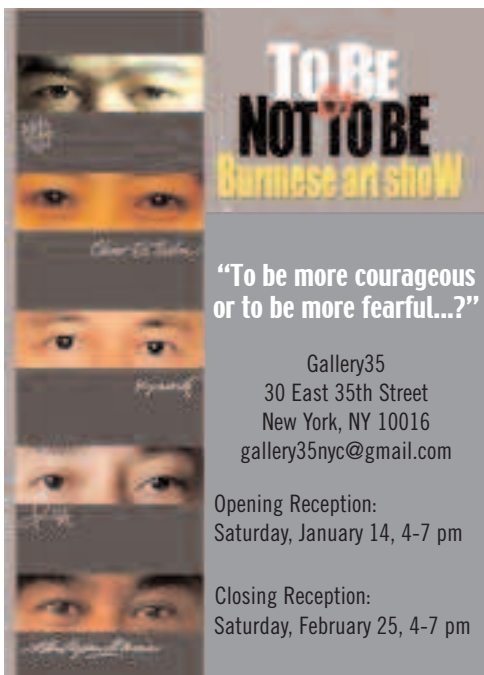
Brooks, Jennifer Hampshire, Phyllis Andrews, and Anna Berg for their contributions. Thanks to Constantine Harrison for his fish platter and Bob and Barbara Goldberg for the cake. All helped to make it a wonderful afternoon.

This coming year Resistance Cinema will continue its tradition of screening and discussing the best films we can find on the most important contemporary issues that will shape and define us as a people and a nation. And as always all are welcome to listen, learn, and participate.



Opening Reception of SMALLworks

GALLERY35 Second Winter Show



FROM YOUR BOARD

By-laws Update

On January 8, 2012, voting members met for a special congregational meeting with the sole purpose of conducting a section-by-section review of the by-laws proposal from the Board's By-laws Task Force. We were ably assisted by UUA Metro District President Ted Fetter as Moderator and by outside Parliamentarian Martin Smith. For purposes of this meeting, members unanimously adopted a set of mutual promises about how to conduct ourselves at the meeting.

The promises adopted were: 1) Listen attentively and carefully to each speaker; 2) Treat all with respect; 3) Wait to be recognized before you speak; 4) Assure clarity; 5) 2 minutes per speaker; and 6) Address disagreements directly and openly.

The Congregation completed review of the first six sections of the by-laws, making a few changes in wording, and agreed that there will be no further discussion on those sections. At 3:30 pm, the Congregation voted to recess the special meeting until January 29, 2012 at 12:30. At that time, we will complete the section-by-section review of the by-laws. We will be following the same ground rules, and we are very lucky to be able to have the same moderator and Parliamentarian assisting us in completing this task.

The Board is working with the Parliamentarian to make sure we find a way to complete the by-laws review and vote and take care of other congregational business, including nominations and

elections, that is both practical and within the bounds of the existing by-laws and Roberts' Rules of Order. A new version of the proposal that incorporates the results of the January 8 Congregational meeting will be posted soon.

Watch for announcements and mailings from the Board of Trustees for developments about the by-laws and the elections.

Jody Leight, Board of Trustees, Clerk

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Note from the Board Chair

Happy New Year, All: As congregants, our votes elect trustees and committee members, decide on the bylaws, and call ministers. In short, sovereignty at The Community Church of New York resides in us. Our website at CCNY.org contains a 'Members Section' with information necessary for our empowerment. Please access it and stay up to date on church business — our business. The December 2011 'Notes from the Board,' for example, has an excellent piece by George Garland on "Fiduciary Responsibility at Community." It's lively content belies the humdrum title. Not clear on the dates of upcoming meetings? This section is also the place to go, as well as for Board and Congregational minutes. Please make this section your one-stop shopping for current church business. If you need help logging in, please contact Valerie Lynch at vlynch@ccny.org. and make sure to give Valerie your email if you haven't already done so.

Robert Bobrick, Board Chair

SAVE THE DATE
CONGREGATIONAL QUARTERLY MEETING
March 25, 2012 at 12:45 pm
IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL

UUA General Assembly 2012 June 20-24, Phoenix, Arizona Delegate Applications Now Available

"This is a historic moment. Be part of the story. General Assembly 2012 will be a gathering with multiple ways of engaging in justice work for people of all ages. Joining with the people of Arizona, we will worship, witness, learn and work together." Consider serving as a Community Church Delegate this year! Applications are available at the Welcome Table during Fellowship Hour or by contacting Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator, vlynch@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext. 19. The deadline is Tuesday, February 21, 2012.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2011~2012

February 5, Sunday Morning Worship 11am

Special Guest Speaker, Dr. Khalil Gibran Muhammad

Sunday February 5, Hall of Worship

The Challenge of Historical Literacy in the Age of Obama

Dr. Khalil Gibran Muhammad is the director of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in July 2011. The Schomburg is one of our nation's premier collections of writings and artifacts related to the global black experience. In addition to being a scholar and educator, he is also the author of "The Condemnation of Blackness: Race, Crime, and the Making of Modern Urban America" published by Harvard University Press in 2010 for which he recently received the John Hope Franklin Prize from the American Studies Association.

Antiracistalliance.com Potluck

Fridays, February 17, March 16, 5:30, Gallery

Action for Justice's Resistance Cinema

Sundays, 1:15 pm, Gallery

February 5, *The Vanishing City*, February 19, *Hot Coffee*,

March 4, *The Lady Is A Fighting Lion*, March 18, *Hidden Battles*

Black History Month

Saturday, February 18, 12 noon, Gallery

The program will include the screening of the entire PBS three part series entitled "RACE: THE POWER OF AN ILLUSION". There will also be special presentations, educational materials provided, and space for group participation and discussion. Several Community Church groups are expected to co-sponsor including Resistance Cinema, Action For Justice, Lifespan Religious Education, and the Anti-Racism Team. A number of outside groups are also being contacted for their support and participation.

UU Christian Fellowship, Front Lounge

1st Tuesdays of the month, February 7 and March 6, 7:30 pm,

MNY-UUCF, a local chapter of the national UU Christian Fellowship (UUCF), is led by the Rev. Kelly Murphy Mason, a UU community minister and former Vice-President of the UUCF. The chapter meets the first Tuesday of every month at Community for fellowship and discussion, religious education, and spiritual deepening.

Anti-Racism Team

1st Fridays of each month.

February 3 and March 2, 6:30 pm, Gallery

Popcorn & Opinions Screening at 7 pm (Film titles TBA)

Join the members of the Anti-Racism Team as we continue to expand our horizons with the help of controversial films and documentaries.

From the Community Women Calendar

February (Date/Time TBA): Speaker From NARAL

On The Current Assault On Women's Rights, Particularly Abortion

Also – Film, NOW – "*Democrats And The New Politics Of Abortion*"

March 4: Annual Women's Service

UUA Common Read

1st Wednesdays of each month, February 1, 15, 29

March 7, 21, 6:30 pm (location TBA)

The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander

Nearly half of the nation's young black men are behind bars, on parole, or on probation – more than the number of slaves in the U.S. in 1850. Michelle Alexander makes the case that racial caste has not been eradicated, but simply redesigned. According to Alexander, the majority of young black men in large American cities are "warehoused in prisons", or once labeled a felon, systems of social control, not unlike Jim Crow Laws, permanently trap them in a second-class status. Participants are invited to read and discuss the book. Soft copies are available for \$20.00. Please RSVP to Esther Rosado at erosado@ccny.org or 212-683-4988

Living the Mystery

Various Tuesdays 6:30-8:00 pm, Conference Room

February 21, March 20, April 17, May 15

"Living the Mystery" is a monthly exploration of significant issues for our lives in the interdependent web of all existence. Topics will not be announced in advance (it is a *mystery*, after all), but you won't be disappointed! Led by the Rev. Orlanda Brugnola, currently Interim Minister at the UU Fellowship of Briarcliff, Croton and Ossining. Rev. Brugnola has taught many classes for adults at Community Church since 1990.

Social Tea

Tuesdays, February 28, March 27, 2-3:30 pm

Join us for a guest speakers, light refreshments and conversation.

Sipping & Searching

Wednesdays, February 22, March 28, 6:30 pm, Front Lounge

Rev. Dr. Anthony Johnson will facilitate this popular discussion group. Join us for pizza, soft drinks, beer and great conversation.

Green Sanctuary's Future Visions Film Series

(Titles TBA)

Thursdays, February 23, March 22, 7 pm, Gallery

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2011~2012 continued

Bible Study for Spiritual Seekers

3rd Tuesdays of each month,

February 21, March 20, 7:30-9 pm, Front Lounge

Continuing 10 monthly sessions

Join Rev. Kelly Murphy Mason, UU Community Minister, for a new Bible Study. Everyone is invited to explore with us.

Bible Study Sessions continue:

6) Redemption and the Messianic Vision

7) The Synoptic Gospels

8) Resurrection and Incarnation

9) Salvation and Revelation

10) Sacred Scriptures

Three texts are highly recommended: John Buehren's *Understanding the Bible* (Beacon), John Nichol's *A Wind Swept Over the Waters*, and *The New Revised Standard Version of The Holy Bible* (American Bible Society). None is required.

Contact Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education, if you have questions. Please RSVP to Esther at erosado@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext. 23.

Secular Humanist Society of NY – Book Club – 1st Thursdays

Thursday, February 2, March 1, 6:30-8:30 pm, Front Lounge

Let's Get Acquainted

Sunday, February 5, 12:30 pm, Conference Room

Have you been visiting recently? Would you like to learn more about Community Church? About "UU", Unitarian Universalism? Come meet for a conversation with Rev. Bruce Southworth, our Senior Minister. Bring your questions.

Spiritual Journeys (through May)

(See Article on Page 3)

What are spiritual journeys? It is what Joseph Campbell would term a call to adventure, except that we will not be heading off into the unknown. Each month, from September through May, Brenda Carpenter and I are planning to plan a field trip that could take the form of a visit to house of worship, museum, labyrinth, garden, or a lecture. We welcome your suggestions from something you read or heard, and they can come in the form of a phone call or e-mail.

Arabic Language Workshop

2nd Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 2 pm

February 11, Gallery and March 10, Front Lounge

Join us as members and friends continue our exploration of the Arabic language by learning simple phrases, questions and answers, and holiday greetings. Correct pronunciation will be stressed and different dialects will be covered. A rudimentary knowledge of the Arabic alphabet is strongly recommended.

Classes began September 17, and will end June 16, 2012

Altered Books

Tuesday, February 28, 6:30 - 8 pm in the Conference Room

Bring an old book you no longer want and we can recreate a book for you. Great idea for keeping poetry and quotes - bring along your favorites. Makes a wonderful gift! Ruth Miller will facilitate this offering. Please RSVP to Esther Rosado at erosado@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext. 23

Twelve Steps to A Compassionate Life Study Group

**1st Mondays of each month. March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4
6:30 pm (place TBA)**

A new study group will discuss the new book "*Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*" by religious historian/theologian Karen Armstrong. Dr. Armstrong recommends at the end of each session introducing one regular practice into each member's life "... ways in which your actions can become a dynamic and positive force for change, not just within yourself but in the world around you..." By the end of the course you will have twelve new habits that should be effecting a transformation within yourself and your immediate environment at a time we can all meet." Contact Esther Rosado erosado@ccny.org to express interest.

Led by Rev. Susan Karlson, minister of the Unitarian Church of Staten Island and Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education. For further information contact Esther Rosado at erosado@ccny.org to express interest.

Buddhism and Yoga (rescheduled from January 22)

February 12, 12:45 pm, Chapel

Our guest speaker will be Dr. Marvin Levine, Professor of Psychology, SUNY at Stony Brook. For more information contact Esther Rosado at erosado@ccny.org.

Buddhism and Western Psychology: The Similarities

**1st Thursdays of each month, March 1, April 5, May 3, 6:30 pm,
Rear Lounge — Lecture/discussion with Dr. Marvin Levine**

Join us in this lecture series as Dr. Levine discusses some of the teachings of the Buddha (centered on the four Noble Truths) with occasional excursions into comparisons with the Western outlook on topics such as: suffering, helping people with various troubles, cravings, change through transformation, and compassion. He will draw from his book, *The Positive Psychology of Buddhism and Yoga*.

Dr. Marvin Levine, is a researcher and theorist in cognitive-experimental psychology. Since 1965, he has been a professor in the Department of Psychology at Stony Brook University. His earliest work was on intellectual problem solving, and later turned his attention to interpersonal problem solving, giving workshops on assertiveness training and anger management, and for several years helped resolve disputes as a volunteer mediator for Suffolk County. He is also a published poet and a professional musician.

Events Calendar for February 2012 *(leap year)*

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1 6:00 Buildings & Grounds 6:30 Common Read THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2 6:30 Secular Human 1 st Society FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3 6:30 Antiracism Team SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UN Global Affairs 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:30 Let's Get Acquainted 12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal 1:15 Resistance Cinema MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6	TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7 7:00 Streetsingers 7:30 UU Christian Fellowship WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8 6:00 Church Council THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9 6:30 Green Sanctuary FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10 SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11 9:00 Healthy Congregations 10:00 Arabic Workshop 10:30 Action For Justice 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal 12:45 Buddhism & Hinduism 1:15 Community Women	MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13 5:30 Committee on Ministry TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15 6:00 Finance Committee 6:00 Textile Study Group 6:30 Common Read THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17 5:30 Antiracistalliance.com Potluck 7:00 Esperanto Society SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18 12:00 Race: The Power of an Illusion 8:00 People's Voice Café	SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 1:15 Resistance Cinema MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20 Presidents' Day ~ Building Closed TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 6:30 Living The Mysteries 7:00 Streetsingers 7:30 Bible Study For Spiritual Seekers WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22 6:00 Board of Trustees 6:30 Sipping & Searching THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23 6:00 Art Group 7:00 Green Sanctuary FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24 8:00 People's Voice Café	SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25 4:00 Gallery35 Closing Reception SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal 1:15 Action For Justice Forum MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27 6:00 NYC UU Ministers TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 2:00 Social Tea 6:30 Altered Books 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29 6:30 Common Read
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**FOR MORE Adult Religious Education and
Opportunities/Events February-March 2012 see pages 9 & 10**

ANNUAL SPRING RETREAT – SAVE THE DATE

Please join us on the third weekend Friday, April 20, through Sunday, April 22, when we will once again migrate to the charming Warwick Center to hike, sing, recite poetry, contemplate nature, spiritual renewal, and, most importantly, enjoy one another's company.

A registration form will be available at the Welcome Table during Fellowship Hour and my mail and e-mail. We will need assistance with hospitality and program offerings for the retreat. If you are interested in helping to plan the retreat please contact Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education at erosado@ccny.org or 212 683-4988, extension 23.



PHOTOS FROM SPRING RETREAT 2011

Events Calendar for March 2012 *(leap year)*

THURSDAY, MARCH 1 6:30 Buddhism & Western Psychology FRIDAY, MARCH 2 6:30 Antiracism Team Popcorn & Opinions SATURDAY, MARCH 3 6:30 Gallery35 Opening Reception 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, MARCH 4 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UN Global Affairs 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Annual Women's Service 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir 1:15 Resistance Cinema MONDAY, MARCH 5 6:30 Twelve Steps to A Compassionate Life TUESDAY, MARCH 6 7:30 UU Christian Fellowship 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY MARCH 7 6:00 Buildings & Grounds 6:30 Common Read THURSDAY, MARCH 8 6:30 Buddhism & Western Psychology	FRIDAY, MARCH 9 SATURDAY, MARCH 10 9:00 Healthy Congregations 10:00 Arabic Language Workshop 10:30 Action For Justice 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, MARCH 11 Daylight Saving Time Starts 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 1:15 Resistance Cinema MONDAY, MARCH 12 TUESDAY, MARCH 13 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14 THURSDAY, MARCH 15 6:30 Buddhism & Western Psychology FRIDAY, MARCH 16 5:30 Antiracistalliance.com Potluck 7:00 Esperanto Society SATURDAY, MARCH 17 8:00 People's Voice Café	SUNDAY, MARCH 18 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir 1:15 Resistance Cinema MONDAY, MARCH 19 TUESDAY, MARCH 20 6:30 Living The Mystery 7:00 Streetsingers 7:30 Bible Study For Spiritual Seekers WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21 6:00 Finance Committee 6:00 Textile Study Group 6:30 Common Read THURSDAY, MARCH 22 6:30 Buddhism & Western Psychology 7:00 Green Sanctuary FRIDAY, MARCH 23 SATURDAY, MARCH 24 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, MARCH 25 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Congregational Quarterly Meeting	MONDAY, MARCH 26 6:00 NYC UU Ministers TUESDAY, MARCH 27 2:00 Social Tea 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28 6:00 Board of Trustees 6:30 Sipping & Searching THURSDAY, MARCH 29 6:00 Art Group 6:30 Buddhism & Western Psychology 7:00 Green Sanctuary FRIDAY, MARCH 30 SATURDAY, MARCH 31 8:00 People's Voice Café
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SAVE THE DATE
CONGREGATIONAL
QUARTERLY MEETING
March 25, 2012 at 12:45 pm
IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL

Rev. Bruce Southworth, Senior Minister
 Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education
 Gerald A. Brown, Director of Music
 Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator
 Rev. Dr. Anthony P. Johnson, Affiliated Minister



The Community Church of New York
Unitarian Universalist
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ISSUE: FORTY THREE
Our Community, RE Vision, Here At Community, Calendars
and much more...
Deadline for April/May issue due March 7, 2012

COMMUNITY connections

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF NEW YORK
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Growing Souls, Doing Justice, and Being Bold in a Caring Community since 1825 *Spring Issue 47 • April/May 2012*

Join us for our annual springtime events!

- Tenebrae, Friday, April 6
- Community Seder Saturday, April 7
- Easter and our *Balloons! Balloons! Balloons!*
Benediction April 8
- Community Retreat April 20-22

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PHOTO FROM SEDER 2011

HERE AT COMMUNITY

New Member Welcome Celebration

Welcoming our new members to Community Church with a special celebration, now part of our Easter Sunday Worship and Fellowship Hour, is one of our most joyous events of the church year. Members who have joined this church year will be receiving invitations soon. If you have been thinking of joining and feel that now is the time, please let us know. Also, if you joined in prior years and were unable attend your year's celebration, we invite to be a part of the welcome this year. To RSVP, please contact Valerie Lynch at vlynch@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext. 19.



New Member's Celebration

Congratulations

Toby Lyles has relocated to Atlanta, Georgia for a research position with CNN. Toby, who has been a research librarian with *The New York Times*, started attending Community in the late 1980s when she was visiting family. She became a member after moving to NYC in 2004. We will miss Toby but wish her all the best as she starts her new life in Atlanta. Toby hopes to stay in touch – Her email is lylestata@gmail.com and phone is (917) 406-7117.

On April 20, Transitional Services of New York (TSINY) will proudly host a Naming Ceremony for Hazel House, named in honor of **Eve Hazel**, its former Executive Director. Hazel House is a 39-unit facility that will become home to 52 people who are transitioning from State Psychiatric Centers, New York State Adult Homes and the emergency rooms of area hospitals.

This facility serves people with serious mental illness, many of whom are at risk for homelessness. At Hazel House, they will live comfortably in the community with opportunities to increase their level of independence and self-reliance.

Eve Hazel, Ph.D., who serves on our Board and previously as Treasurer, was the CEO of TSINY from 1988 until 2007.

Many met **Valerie Lynch's** exchange student son **Omar Al-Fotihhi** from Yemen when he spoke at a Social Tea last winter. Valerie is proud to announce that Omar is now a Project Assistant to the Richmond (Indiana) Human Rights Commission. Omar is majoring in International Relations/Peace Studies and Global Conflict Resolution at Earlham College in Indiana. He is also studying Spanish and hopes to participate in a short exchange to Nicaragua in the near future.

BIRTHDAYS

April 2012

- 4 James Apicella
- Shoulun Chang
- 5 Louise Brown
- 7 Valerie Lynch
- 11 Helene Summa
- 12 George Martin
- 13 Deborah Gambbs
- 15 Gladys McNatt
- Robert Bobrick
- 16 Agnes Babich
- 18 Nancy Hough
- 22 Brianna Goldberg
- 24 Thorin Watts
- 26 Brenda Shrobe
- 27 Rebecca Reilly
- 28 Mary Springston
- Patti Paris

BIRTHDAYS

May 2012

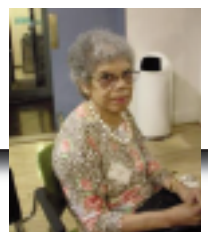
- 1 Don Powell
- 1 Mae Tabbanor
- 2 Mary Orován
- 3 Pete Seeger
- 4 Rosemary McNatt
- 7 Paul Hampton
- 7 Lindsay Manocherian
- 11 Elinor White
- David Allen Asencio
- Catalina Martinez-
- Concepcion
- Nancy Revels
- 12 Gabriela Ioanid
- 15 Ron Giancola
- 16 Virginia Brody
- 17 Mark Price
- Willem Tahon-Kelfkens
- 18 Nicole Lord
- 19 Marilyn Travis
- Gerald Foreman
- 20 Renata Rainer
- 21 Rebecca Flather
- 22 Ellen Ensig-Brodsky
- 24 Leona Feyer
- 25 Diana Stewart
- 31 George Garland

Members Out & About ~ Joel Mandelbaum's Music

Thursday, April 19 ~ Lefrak Concert Hall, Queens College, 12:15 pm. Another LICA concert, in which two of Maman's arias from *The Village*, will be sharing the program with works by Leo Kraft, Edward Smaldone, Richard Brooks, Emanuel Sikora, and Gregory Manilo. His singer will once again be Kathryn Wieckhorst.
Monday, May 14 ~ Lefrak Concert Hall, 8 pm
Kathryn Wieckhorst will include *The Past Is Now* in her graduation recital, this time with piano.

IN MEMORIAM

A Memorial Service will be held for **Mabel Hill** on Sunday, April 15, at 1 pm. Mabel, a member of over 30 years, had always been a welcoming presence at the Membership Table. Any one who has participated in a New Member Welcome Sunday was touched by Mabel as she was responsible for the beautiful flowers given to our new members. Mabel will be greatly missed! We hope you will attend this celebration of her life.



Join Our Community Passover Seder on Saturday, April 7th, 2012!

by Rachel Stone



Community Church of New York's annual Unitarian Universalist Passover Seder will be held on Saturday, April 7th, 2012 in the church's downstairs Assembly Hall at 40 East 35th Street, New York. Doors open at 4:30pm, and the Seder service starts at 5:00 pm.

Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 for children 12 and under, and \$40 for families (two adults with children 12 and under). A full multi-course dinner is served with Passover ritual foods including Rachel Stone's legendary fruit/nut *Charoset*, gefilte fish, matzoh ball soup, salad, roast chicken, potatoes, vegetables, and dessert (fresh fruit and Passover baked goods), red wine, grape juice, and of course, matzoh.

Children are especially encouraged to come and participate in this historical Jewish celebration of freedom with special parts for kids, including a treasure hunt for the mysterious hidden "Afikomen." There will be plenty of singing and even some hora dancing to make it a memorable event for everyone to enjoy!

Leonore Tiefer, as Seder Leader, breathes new life and wonderful humor into the historic story of freedom whose message resounds with all cultures. The text of the Haggadah (which means "The Telling") was co-written by Leonore, and is designed especially for our multi-cultural Unitarian-Universalist values.

Be a **Passover Partner** by helping to spread the word and sell tickets (very important!), and help on the day of the Seder to set up the room, assist with cooking, serving, and cleanup. Please contact Leonore Tiefer at ltiefer@mindspring.com or phone 212-533-2774. Tickets will also be available on Sundays after services during Fellowship Hour, and will be sold online on the Seder page of the Community Church website: www.ccnny.org/Seder 2012. Due to limited seating space, only 100 tickets are available.

Please note that most of the food will NOT be strictly Kosher. If you have special dietary needs such as vegetarian or vegan, please contact Leonore Tiefer 212-533-2774 to discuss possible accommodations.



Social Tea and Paring Down

by Maureen Allen Holder

Febuary's Social Tea was led by Kathy Schwarz, a Health, Nutrition, Environmental Educator. We gathered to hear her suggestions for paring down, living simply and achieving a sustainable life style. Concurrently, participants inserted their knowledge on recycling and recalled childhood experiences which were not only cost effective but environmentally sound.



Kathy posited several questions for us to consider when determining the worth of an item in the process of paring down and simplifying our lives:

- When was the last time (name item) was used?
- When was the last time (name item) was worn?
- Do I need this item or is it a want?
- Does this item have a nostalgic value?
- Why do I have (name item)? What purpose does it serve?

The following suggestions are reminders to help keep our consciousness raised:

- Minimize the clothes you buy – buy used garments.
- Use up your products before repurchasing.
- Stop buying bottled water.
- Use your AC selectively – keep the shades down on sunny days.
- Use the backside of paper whenever possible.
- Repair shoes rather than purchase new shoes.
- Use cloth napkins instead of paper napkins.
- Use your own cutlery, cup and plate instead of using plastic eateries.
- Don't use plastic bags.
- Bring your own bags when shopping for groceries, vegetables and fruits.
- Use less toothpaste on your toothbrush.

Kathy sent us on our way with thoughts to consider and to **recycle**.



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE BOARD

The Board would like to announce that we have hired Margaret Keyser, of Margaret Keyser Consulting, upon recommendation of Andrea Lerner of the NY Metro District, as a Conflict Transformation Consultant for The Community Church of New York. Ms. Keyser is an internationally-known practitioner of conflict transformation. She hails from South Africa and has worked with religious and educational institutions, government agencies, and other groups to bring understanding and peace-building out of conflict.

She has started interviewing key members of the congregation as selected by the Board of Trustees, with the Board Chair, Board Vice-

Chair and Senior Minister serving as her Board-appointed representatives. Members interviewed include Robert Bobrick, Ed Dejowski, Deborah Gambs, George Garland, Gary Geoghegan, Lisa Gluck, Sam Kerns, Jody Leight, Joel Mandelbaum, Ruth Miller, Tina Redick, Bill Rothfarb, Rev. Bruce Southworth, Marjorie Vai, Kay Xanthakos.

After the initial interview and information gathering stages, Ms. Keyser will facilitate a dialogue with the core group as well as engage the Congregation directly in the conflict transformation process over the next couple of months. Please welcome her and the special opportunity she is providing for growth and reconciliation.

ANNUAL SPRING RETREAT

Please join us on the third weekend Friday, April 20, through Sunday, April 22, when we will once again migrate to the charming Warwick Center to hike, sing, recite poetry, contemplate nature, spiritual renewal, and, most importantly, enjoy one another's company.

A registration form will be available at the Welcome Table during Fellowship Hour and my mail and e-mail. We will need assistance with hospitality and program offerings for the retreat. If you are interested in helping to plan the retreat please contact Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education at erosado@ccny.org or 212 683-4988, extension 23.

Delegates Still Needed For GA And Metro District Annual Meeting!!!

by Fay Bennett Lord

The Community Church of New York seeks members in good standing to serve as official delegates to General Assembly, June 20-24, in Phoenix, AZ, and the Metro District Annual Meeting, May 4-5, 2012 in Stamford, Connecticut.

Registration Fees covered when selected as a delegate (\$500 stipend for GA upon registration and by reimbursement upon registration for Metro) however, to take advantage of the best rates and early registration fees, interested members should apply immediately and return the completed application to the board, or e-mail their interest to: rbobrick@aol.com before April 24, 2012.

General Assembly will be a life changing event this year – with a focus on Justice. Activities working out in the community are also being planned, not a “business as usual” GA..

The Metro District Annual Meeting will provide a full complement of lay and ministerial leadership opportunities for congregational

growth and professional development via workshops, training opportunities, and spiritual enrichment programs during a weekend experience. The atmosphere is charged with state-of-the-art learning tools for UUs within the tri-state area; it also fosters networking, broader communications' coordination, and exposure to new trends in social justice and diversity arenas. Previous participants in the Annual Meeting have commented on the shared spiritual concerns for self-expression. Others have pointed to the focus on creativity and innovative paths for belongingness and self-actualization in a varied program setting.

Any member who wishes to take advantage of these opportunities to “grow his/her soul” and to serve as a voting delegate at these Annual Meetings, kindly complete an application and return it immediately to the membership table on Sundays or by e-mail to a board member. For further details on the meetings, log on to: <http://www.uumetrony.org/am12/index.htm> and www.uua.org/ga. This is an adventure and we encourage you to report back to us on your wonderful and diverse experiences from these events. To chat with a board member, contact, flord459@aol.com or call Fay Bennett Lord (917) 741-3357.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

A Warm Welcome to Bob Martin

Bob Martin joins us as our Business Administrator with experience in both non-profit organizations as well as the corporate sector. Most recently, Bob was the Director of Finance and Administration with the GO Project. GO is an outreach program co-founded by Grace Church in New York and Grace Church School that serves at risk elementary school children who live on the Lower East Side of Manhattan and attend public schools. GO's educational programs are offered on weekends and during a 6 week full day summer program. Prior to his work with educational organizations, Bob worked in the investment banking departments of two major financial service institutions.

Bob has extensive volunteer experience with religious and educational organizations. He has served as the President of his local School Board and as Elder and Trustee in his Church. Bob and his wife Rosemarie live in Garden City, New York. In their spare time, they enjoy traveling to Vermont to participate in the outdoor activities that are available in all seasons of the year. Their daughter, Laura, lives with her husband in Austin, Texas.

Bob is excited to join the Community Church staff and looks forward to working with the members of the congregation.



Blowing up Balloons

Come early on Easter morning (9:30 am) to prepare the balloons for our traditional Balloon Benediction!



To Be Or Not To Be Artists



Kyain Lin Naing, Kyawswar Thant (KST), Shaun Randol (The Mantle), Chaw Ei Thein, Aung Zaw Tun, and Min Kyaw Khine

A Thank You for “To Be or Not To Be”

by Valerie Lynch

I would like to express my thanks to Gallery35, Community Church's art group and Shaun Randol, Community Member and Editor in Chief of *The Mantle*, for making this incredibly moving exhibit possible. I was so glad to have caught the show when I was in New York at the end of January.

The show offered an opportunity to “hear” the voice of the people of Burma — one could see the pain, sorrow, as well as hope. Even the subtlest detail spoke volumes to me. As someone who served with the U.S. Marines, I now see camouflage in a new way. We are all in this world together and as long as one people are in pain, none of us can be free from that pain.

Thank you for bringing this show to Community Church! I encourage everyone to see the wonderful art shows Gallery35 exhibits throughout the year.

Ban Fracking Now

by Maureen Allen Holder

At first it appeared that many people were not going to show up at the Cathedral of St. John the Devine for the *SPEAK OUT AGAINST FRACKING* on February 25, 2012. After walking towards the front of the Cathedral and passing a number of empty rows I located several Community Church of NY members and friends and settled into my seat to listen to the many speakers. A 1-3 pm *anti-fracking* program was scheduled. Looking over the agenda, at the numerous listed speakers, 1 to 3 pm seemed a mirage. However, mid-way through the speakers I turned to see the pews overflowing and with each speaker observing a three minute presentation, the 3 p.m. deadline was honored.

The topic *fracking* in the Marcellus area (Eastern Ohio to the Hudson River) was the issue of the day. *Fracking* is a system in which millions of gallons of chemical-fluid are infused into the ground for the purpose of creating sufficient pressure to shatter natural shale, resulting in the release of gas; necessary, we are told, to ensure 'our way of life'. Still, all of the damaging aspects of *fracking* are not yet conclusive. The gas industry refuses to release the totality of their data claiming "proprietary" rights even though instances of drinking water contamination, toxic spills and well blowouts have been reported. Additionally, studies have shown that in the areas of the U.S. where *fracking* has taken place, a high level of health problems exist such as cancer, birth defects, neurological disorders and respiratory illness.



Under the Bush-Cheney administration, gas companies were given carte blanche. *Fracking* is exempt from restrictions mandated by the Safe Drinking Water Act, Clean Water Act, Air Act and other environmental regulations. Presently there is a moratorium on *fracking* in New York. However, this stay is precarious as rumors indicate that Governor Cuomo is considering a partial lifting of the ban. Notwithstanding, Claire Sandberg, the executive director of the New York-based group *Frack Action* stated that "Governor Cuomo has pledged not to allow this practice until it has been proven safe, and we're confident that he'll uphold his promise."

At the Cathedral the significance of banning fracking was expressed by State Senator Tony Avella, Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, Assemblyman Micah Kellner, Assemblywomen Gail Brewer and Linda Rosenthal. As well, we heard from Jim Dean from Democracy for America, Josh Fox the film director of *Gasland* and environmental and political activists Terry Tempest Williams (author), Hilary Baum (Chefs for the Marcellus), David Braun (United for Action), Julia Walsh (Frack Action), Bill McKibben (350.org), Claire Sandberg (Water Defense), Wenonah Hauter (Food Water Watch) and Claire Skopic (Cathedral of St. John the Devine).

We were encouraged to lobby local legislators and to adhere to the Monday Cuomo pledge. That is: call Governor Cuomo's office (518 474 8390) every Monday to declare that *fracking* must be banned.

Occupied!

by Rachel Stone

On Saturday, April 28th, downstairs in Community's Assembly Hall, The Peoples' Voice Cafe will be musically "OCCUPIED!" by satiric political singer/songwriters: Community's own **Rachel Stone** plus **Joel Landy** and **Marc Crawford Leavitt** humorously taking on the presidential candidates and issues of the Occupy Movement, turning the room into an indoor "People's Park." Music Director **Paul Johnson** accompanies on piano.

TheaterScene.net's Joel Benjamin described the trio's last show at PVC: "In the honored tradition of Tom Lehrer, Oscar Brand and even – God help us! – Weird Al Yankovic and Alan Sherman... master satirical singer/songwriters [in]

an evening of wickedly funny topical songs... They pretty much covered and brilliantly savaged all the evils of the day. Rachel Stone (www.rachelstonemusic.com) has a charmingly folksy, slightly ragged soprano – quite an effective tool with which to communicate her ideas. Mr. Leavitt (www.poltunes.com) is the charming, straightforward everyman with a natural sweet baritone and Mr. Landy's voice (www.singfreedom.org) is a cross between Tim Buckley and Phil Ochs, particularly warm when singing his own, original songs."



Saturday, April 28, 2012 at 8 pm (doors open 7:30 pm), downstairs Assembly Hall at Community Church of New York, 40 East 35th St., NYC. Donation at door: \$15-18 (or pay what you can). Home-baked desserts & beverages available. For more info, www.peoplesvoicecafe.org, or 212-787-3903.

"OCCUPIED!" features satiric political singer/songwriters (l to r) Rachel Stone, Marc Crawford Leavitt and Joel Landy

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2011~2012

Congregational Meeting— Sunday, April 1, 1 pm

Continuation of discussion regarding proposed By-Law Revisions.

Tenebrae Service

Friday, April 6, at 7:30 pm in the Chapel

This service, which commemorates the events of Good Friday, has been adapted to capture the spirit of Jesus' personal loyalty to truth and self-sacrifice for the well-being of others

Action for Justice's Resistance Cinema

Sundays, 1:15 pm, Gallery

April 8, 22, — May 6, 27, — June 10, 24. Films TBA

UU Christian Fellowship, Front Lounge

1st Tuesdays of the month, April 3 and May 1, 7:30 pm,

MNY-UUCF, a local chapter of the national UU Christian Fellowship (UUCF), is led by the Rev. Kelly Murphy Mason, a UU community minister and former Vice-President of the UUCF. The chapter meets the first Tuesday of every month at Community for fellowship and discussion, religious education, and spiritual deepening.

Anti-Racism Team ~ Popcorn & Opinions,

1st Fridays of each month, 6:30 pm, Gallery

Join the members of the Anti-Racism Team as we continue to expand our horizons.

April 6 ~ *The Tracker*, winner of the Best Film and Best Actor, Australian Film Critics Circle, this film is set in 1922. The tracker has the job of perusing the fugitive, an aborigine who is suspected of murdering a white woman as he leads three mounted policemen across the outback. As they move deeper into the bush and further away from civilization, the toxic forces of paranoia; the questions of what is black and what is white and who is leading who come into play.

May 4 ~ *100 Days* is a story of love and brutality set in the midst of an event the world is still trying to come to terms with - the genocide in Rwanda. "Docudrama filmmaking at its finest" says Dennis Harvey, *Variety*. "100 Days succeeds a drama and succeeds in telling the truth." Mark Doyle, BBC.

From the Community Women Calendar

Sundays, 1 pm, Front Lounge

April 15 ~ *What I Want My Words to Do to You* — A documentary showing an unprecedented look into the hearts and minds of women in a maximum security prison. Eve Ensler is shown leading a writing class using a series of exercises and intimate probing discussions to help them understand themselves and help us understand these women. A discussion will follow.

May 13, Universalism and Judith Sargent Murray - We will be reading her 1790 essay, "On the Equality of the Sexes" and some of her personal letters, which reveal what a woman's life was like in late 18th and early 19th centuries in America.

UUA Common Read

1st Wednesdays of each month,

April 4 and May 2, 6:30 pm (location TBA)

The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander

Nearly half of the nation's young black men are behind bars, on parole, or on probation — more than the number of slaves in the U.S. in 1850. Michelle Alexander makes the case that racial caste has not been eradicated, but simply redesigned. According to Alexander, the majority of young black men in large American cities are "warehoused in prisons", or once labeled a felon, systems of social control, not unlike Jim Crow Laws, permanently trap them in a second-class status. Participants are invited to read and discuss the book. Soft copies are available for \$20.00. Please RSVP to Esther Rosado at erosado@ccny.org or 212-683-4988

Living the Mystery

Various Tuesdays 6:30-8:00 pm, Conference Room

April 17, May 15

"Living the Mystery" is a monthly exploration of significant issues for our lives in the interdependent web of all existence. Topics will not be announced in advance (it is a *mystery*, after all), but you won't be disappointed! Led by the Rev. Orlanda Brugnola, currently Interim Minister at the UU Fellowship of Briarcliff, Croton and Ossining. Rev. Brugnola has taught many classes for adults at Community Church since 1990.

Social Tea

Tuesdays, April 24, May 29, 2-3:30 pm, Assembly Hall

Join us for a guest speakers, light refreshments and conversation.

Sipping & Searching

Wednesdays, April 25, May 23, 6:30 pm, Front Lounge

Rev. Dr. Anthony Johnson will facilitate this popular discussion group. Join us for pizza, soft drinks, beer and great conversation.

Green Sanctuary's Future Visions Film/Discussion Series (Programs TBA)

Friday, April 27 ~ Thursday, May 24, 7 pm, Gallery

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2011~2012 continued

Bible Study for Spiritual Seekers

3rd Tuesdays of each month,

April 17, May 15, 7:30-9 pm, Front Lounge

Continuing 10 monthly sessions

Join Rev. Kelly Murphy Mason, UU Community Minister, for a new Bible Study. Everyone is invited to explore with us.

Bible Study Sessions continue:

9) Salvation and Revelation

10) Sacred Scriptures

Three texts are highly recommended: John Buehren's *Understanding the Bible* (Beacon), John Nichol's *A Wind Swept Over the Waters*, and *The New Revised Standard Version of The Holy Bible* (American Bible Society). None is required.

Contact Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education, if you have questions. Please RSVP to Esther at erosado@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext. 23.

Secular Humanist Society of NY – Book Club – 1st Thursdays Thursday, April 5, May 3, 6:30-8:30 pm, Front Lounge

Spiritual Journeys (through May)

What are spiritual journeys? It is what Joseph Campbell would term a call to adventure, except that we will not be heading off into the unknown. Each month, from September through May, Brenda Carpenter and Esther Rosado are planning field trips that could take the form of a visit to house of worship, museum, labyrinth, garden, or a lecture. We welcome your suggestions too. Destinations will be listed on the website and in Sunday Announcements.

Arabic Language Workshop

2nd Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 2 pm

April 14, Gallery and May 12, Front Lounge

Join us as members and friends continue our exploration of the Arabic language by learning simple phrases, questions and answers, and holiday greetings. Correct pronunciation will be stressed and different dialects will be covered. A rudimentary knowledge of the Arabic alphabet is strongly recommended.

Classes began September 17, and will end June 16, 2012

Altered Books

Tuesday, April 17, 6:30-8 pm in the Conference Room

Bring an old book you no longer want and we can recreate a book for you. Great idea for keeping poetry and quotes - bring along your favorites. Makes a wonderful gift! Ruth Miller will facilitate this offering. Please RSVP to Esther Rosado at erosado@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext. 23

***Twelve Steps to A Compassionate Life* Study Group**

**Mondays, April 2, 9, 16, 12, 30 and May 7, 7-9 pm,
Conference Room**

A new study group will discuss the new book "*Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*" by religious historian/theologian Karen Armstrong. Dr. Armstrong recommends at the end of each session introducing one regular practice into each member's life "... ways in which your actions can become a dynamic and positive force for change, not just within yourself but in the world around you..." By the end of the course you will have twelve new habits that should be effecting a transformation within yourself and your immediate environment at a time we can all meet." Contact Esther Rosado erosado@ccny.org to express interest.

(Led by Rev. Susan Karlson, minister of the Unitarian Church of Staten Island and Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education.)

Buddhism and Western Psychology: The Similarities

**Weekly on Thursdays through May 3, 6:30 pm, Rear Lounge –
Lecture/discussion with Dr. Marvin Levine**

Join us in this lecture series as Dr. Levine discusses some of the teachings of the Buddha (centered on the four Noble Truths) with occasional excursions into comparisons with the Western outlook on topics such as: suffering, helping people with various troubles, cravings, change through transformation, and compassion. He will draw from his book, *The Positive Psychology of Buddhism and Yoga*.

Community Circles – Starting Soon

Sundays, 9 am and 1 pm,

At long last, Community Circles are again forming! Participants will get to know one another on a deep level through conversation and listening. The first two proposed groups will meet on Sundays, 9 am and 1 pm, beginning later this month. Watch for exact dates. If you would like to explore with us, please contact Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education at 212-683-4988, ext 23 or erosado@ccny.org.

Circle Suppers – More Dates to be Announced Soon

Action for Justice will be sponsoring upcoming Circle Suppers. They will be potluck dinners, meeting at a host's home (Location to be announced). The first hour will include a discussion of a current event or situation (like the economy). For more information contact Karen Hoover at threeecatshoover@rcn.com or 917-304-1217

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2011~2012 continued

First Saturday Feeding of the Hungry in the Bowery

Saturdays, April 7 and May 5, 10:45 am

We invite you to help the Sai Baba Group feed the hungry on the First Saturday of each month. We meet on Forsyth, just south of Houston at 10:45 am. Please bring vegetarian food to share with the over 100 people who come. This is an outdoor event so dress for the weather. For more information contact Valerie Lynch at vlynch@ccny.org or 212-683-4988.

Other Events at Community

PotluckAntiracistalliance.com Potluck

Fridays, April 20 and May 18, 5:30, in the Gallery

Everyone is invited – Held the third Friday of each month.

Esperanto Society of NY – Friday, April 20 and May 18, 7-9 pm,

3rd Floor Conference Room – 28 E 35th St Everyone is invited.

Held the third Friday of each month.

Peoples Voice Café – Most Saturdays, 8 pm

April 14, Special annual concert for friends and activists at the Peoples' Voice Café.

April 21, 28 and May 5, 12, 19,

Visit www.peoplesvoicecafe.org for upcoming shows.

WE ARE NOW ON YOUTUBE – Go to www.youtube.com and search “Spiritual Basics”. Let us know your thoughts!

Events Calendar for April 2012

SUNDAY, APRIL 1 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UN Global Affairs 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal Congregational By-Laws Meeting 1:15 Action For Justice Forum MONDAY, APRIL 2 7:00 12 Steps To Compassionate Life TUESDAY, APRIL 3 7:00 Streetsingers 7:30 UU Christian Fellowship WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4 6:00 Buildings & Grounds 6:30 Common Read THURSDAY, APRIL 5 6:30 Secular Human Society 7:00 Buddhism & Western Psychology	FRIDAY, APRIL 6 6:30 Antiracism Team Popcorn & Opinions 7:30 Tenebrae Service SATURDAY, APRIL 7 10:45 1st Saturday Feeding program 5:00 <u>Seder Dinner</u> EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 8 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 1:15 Resistance Cinema MONDAY, APRIL 9 7:00 12 Steps To Compassionate Life TUESDAY, APRIL 10 7:00 Streetsingers THURSDAY, APRIL 12 7:00 Buddhism & Western Psychology	SATURDAY, APRIL 14 9:00 Healthy Congregations 10:00 Arabic Workshop 3:00 Gallery35 Opening Reception 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, APRIL 15 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal 1:00 Mabel Hill Memorial Service 1:00 Community Women MONDAY, APRIL 16 7:00 12 Steps To Compassionate Life TUESDAY, APRIL 17 6:30 Altered Books 6:30 Living The Mystery 7:00 Streetsingers 7:30 Bible Study For Spiritual Seekers WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18 6:00 Finance Committee 6:00 Textile Study Group	THURSDAY, APRIL 19 7:00 Buddhism & Western Psychology FRIDAY, APRIL 20 Warwick Retreat Weekend 5:30 Antiracistalliance.com Potluck 7:00 Esperanto Society SATURDAY, APRIL 21 10:30 Action For Justice 3:00 Gallery35 Opening Reception 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, APRIL 22 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal 1:15 Resistance Cinema MONDAY, APRIL 23 6:00 NYC UU Ministers 7:00 12 Steps To Compassionate Life TUESDAY, APRIL 24 2:00 Social Tea 7:00 Streetsingers	WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25 6:00 Board of Trustees 6:30 Sipping & Searching THURSDAY, APRIL 26 7:00 Buddhism & Western Psychology FRIDAY, APRIL 27 7:00 Green Sanctuary SATURDAY, APRIL 28 7:00 Church Council Service Auction 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, APRIL 29 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal 1:00 Forum with Swami Probuddhananda Puri MONDAY, APRIL 30 7:00 12 Steps To Compassionate Life
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FOR MORE Adult Religious Education and Opportunities/Events April-May 2012 see pages 7 & 8

Events Calendar for May 2012

TUESDAY, MAY 1 7:00 Streetsingers 7:30 UU Christian Fellowship WEDNESDAY, MAY 2 6:00 Buildings & Grounds THURSDAY, MAY 3 6:30 Secular Human Society 7:00 Buddhism & Western Psychology FRIDAY, MAY 4 6:30 Antiracist Team Popcorn & Opinions SATURDAY, MAY 5 10:45 1st Saturday Feeding Program 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, MAY 6 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UN Global Affairs Meeting 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir 1:00 Resistance Cinema	MONDAY, MAY 7 7:00 12 Steps To Compassionate Life TUESDAY, MAY 8 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, MAY 9 6:00 Church Council SATURDAY, MAY 12 9:00 Healthy Congregations 10:00 Arabic Language Workshop 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, MAY 13 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir 1:00 Community Women 1:15 Resistance Cinema TUESDAY, MAY 15 6:30 Living The Mystery 7:00 Streetsingers 7:30 Bible Study For Spiritual Seekers	WEDNESDAY, MAY 16 6:00 Finance Committee 6:00 Textile Study Group FRIDAY, MAY 18 5:30 Antiracistalliance.com Potluck 7:00 Esperanto Society SATURDAY, MAY 19 10:30 Action For Justice 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, MAY 20 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour <u>CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET HEARING MEETING</u> TUESDAY, MAY 22 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, MAY 23 6:00 Board of Trustees 6:30 Sipping & Searching THURSDAY, MAY 24 7:00 Green Sanctuary	SUNDAY, MAY 27 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UN Global Affairs 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir 1:30 Resistance Cinema MONDAY, MAY 28 MEMORIAL DAY TUESDAY, MAY 29 2:00 Social Tea 7:00 Streetsingers THURSDAY, MAY 31 6:00 Gallery35
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Rev. Bruce Southworth, Senior Minister
Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education
Gerald A. Brown, Director of Music
Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator
Rev. Dr. Anthony P. Johnson, Affiliated Minister
Robert G. Martin, Business Administrator



The Community Church of New York
Unitarian Universalist
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New York, N.Y. 10016
www.ccny.org
Tel: 212.683.4988

ISSUE: FORTY SEVEN
Our Community, Here At Community
Calendars and much more...

Deadline for Summer issue due May 2, 2012

COMMUNITY connections

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF NEW YORK
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Growing Souls, Doing Justice, and Being Bold in a Caring Community since 1825

Spring Issue 48 • Summer 2012

Annual Spring Retreat At Warwick

Ruth Miller

The Annual Spring Church Retreat took place on the weekend of April 20-22nd. The bus carrying some of the participants arrived at the Warwick



Retreat Center for the first time in memory just as the sun was setting which was an auspicious sign for the beginning of our special time together. David and Michelle Asencio had been the first to arrive and prepared a lovely spread of food and beverages for the Friday evening buffet as well as for the rest of the weekend. We were given our room keys and went off to freshen up before joining the others in the meeting room for food and fellowship. Esther Rosado led us in an ice breaker wherein we explained about how we had come into our names. It proved to be a very interesting and informative exercise.

On Saturday, after breakfast, we gathered for the service which I led having chosen the theme

of "Spring and New Beginnings." The Novenski Family, Linda, Jil and Thorin (Watts), read a poem together entitled "Dance of Spring." Others participated by reading additional poems and selections. After a short break, Ellen Mandelbaum facilitated a watercolor class, followed by a card making session led by yours truly. Afterwards, Rev. Southworth engaged us in conversation, and we shared good discussions on a variety of topics. Some participants went on a hike that was planned to be shorter than usual due to the prediction of rain, which indeed arrived, thankfully after everyone was back in the shelter of the meeting room. After dinner, some of us met for a Poetry Circle where we read poetry to each other, and Joel Mandelbaum played some of his compositions set to the poetry of Edna St. Vincent Millay, Leonie Adams and Susan Fox.

On Sunday, the service had for its theme "Community." Khalilah Arrington and her son, Kai, recited the Langston Hughes poem "In the Time of Silver Rain" after which we sang it as the first hymn. Afterwards, some of the participants took a fast trip to Pacem in Terris, which was officially closed, but they were permitted to walk around the grounds viewing the sculptures of Frederick Franck who had created the sanctuary.

The group left Warwick at 2:00 p.m., happy in the knowledge that new friendships had been made and old ones renewed.

more photos on page 2

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HERE AT COMMUNITY

BIRTHDAYS

JUNE 2012

- 1 Julie Abbruscato
- 3 Katie Karlovitz
- 5 Martin Theodores
- 7 Stephen Adeyinka
- 7 Otis Samuel Kerns
- 8 Kenly Dillard
- 8 Kevin Maxwell
- 12 Virginia Asman
- 12 Austin Publicover
- 16 Ellen Mandelbaum
- 17 George Marshall
- 18 Emilio DeTorre
- 19 Anita Monick
- 20 Barb Conkin
- 21 Derek Peru
- 26 Maria Velez-Lopez
- 30 Robert Reiss
- 30 Shelley Crandall

BIRTHDAYS

JULY 2012

- 2 Philip Patinka
- 3 Fred DeLisi
- 7 Dawn Stewart-Lookkin
- 8 Jody Leight
- 10 Nina Bernstein
- 10 Bryanna Patinka
- 13 Ivan Birchall
- 14 Priscilla Stadler
- 14 Lehna Huie
- 19 Jonathan Hampton
- 19 Kayla Southworth
- 21 Leigh Henderson
- 27 Rachel Stone
- 28 Lisa Gluck
- 29 J. Michael Southworth
- 30 Jason Nunan
- 31 Peter Robinson, Jr.

BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST 2012

- 1 Karen Ethelsdattar
- 1 Charles Hymowitz
- 3 Sarah Ann Manocherian
- 9 Maureen Holder
- 12 Evelen Dana Hough
- 13 Jean Krampner
- 13 Phyllis Andrews
- 14 Kimberly Ball
- 14 Cheryl Walker
- 15 Courtnie Julien
- 15 John Silver
- 15 Maddi Gutfreind
- 15 Heather Burgher
- 19 Evan-Frances Agnew
- 19 Allen McNatt
- 19 Winifred Zubin
- 19 Bill Rothfarb
- 21 Margery Johnston
- 22 Terelle Julien
- 22 Helene Lightbourne
- 22 Stacy Rasis
- 24 Reena Kondo
- 24 Patricia Kolb
- 26 Renee Otto
- 28 David Strachan
- 30 M. Bridget Brosnan



PHOTOS FROM SPRING RETREAT 2012

A WORD FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

IN THE DARK about the Board meetings, Congregational meetings and other matters of church government?

You don't have to be. The Members Section of the ccny.org web site has links to minutes of previous meetings, important documents, and information on upcoming meetings. The updated Church Directory of Members and Friends located here has been especially

useful for me. If you don't have a password yet to access the "Member Documents", please email Membership Coordinator Valerie Lynch at vlynch@ccny.org and tell her what password you want to use. You can use your email address or your name as a login ID. Valerie will set it up for you. It's as simple as 1-2-3. Let's stay in touch as much as we can about church affairs. Thanks ~ Robert Bobrick, Board Chair

From Our History ~ Congratulations To Our Senior Minister

On July 1, 1982 – 30 years ago – **Rev. Bruce Southworth** became the Senior Minister of The Community Church of New York. The Congregation voted to call Rev. Southworth as Senior Minister at a Congregational Meeting held on May 17, 1981.

Rev. Southworth had served the Congregation beginning September 1, 1979 as Colleague Successor to the Senior Minister, Dr. Donald Szantho Harrington. He was the choice of the congregationally-elected Search Committee from among the candidates for this position. Following a successful candidating week, the Congregation voted to call him as Colleague Successor at a meeting held on May 20, 1979.

Congratulations to **Kayla Southworth** who graduated from Harvard Law School in May.

Naming Ceremony for **Hazel House** (photo on right)

On April 20, Transitional Services of New York (TSINY) proudly hosted a Naming Ceremony for Hazel House, named in honor of **Eve Hazel**, its former Executive Director. Hazel House is a 39-unit facility that will become home to 52 people who are transitioning from

State Psychiatric Centers, New York State Adult Homes and the emergency rooms of area hospitals.

This facility serves people with serious mental illness, many of whom are at risk for homelessness.

At Hazel House, they will live comfortably in the community with opportunities to increase their level of independence and self-reliance.

Eve Hazel, Ph.D., who serves on our Board and previously as Treasurer, was the CEO of TSINY from 1988 until 2007.



The next UU Living Legacy Civil Rights Pilgrimage is scheduled for October 6-13, 2012, and registration is now open. This unique bus trip is much more than a Civil Rights history tour through Alabama and Mississippi. We will be visiting historic sites and meeting veterans of the Civil Rights Movement, but will also be spending time together and with guests exploring what racism, white privilege, and barriers to equality look like today in Southern towns we visit — and in our own hometowns.

Beyond experiencing first-hand the civil rights legacy, our goal is to develop commitment, vision and mechanisms within our group to

Registration open for 2012 UU Living Legacy Civil Rights Pilgrimage

work on issues of race, injustice and inequality that still bedevil our congregations and our society. The Living Legacy Pilgrimage is hosted and organized by Reverend Gordon Gibson and Judy Gibson; Reverend Hope Johnson; Reverend

James Hobart; Janice Marie Johnson; Annette Marquis; and Donna Sequeira, and co-sponsored by the Southeast District of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

For more information and to register, please visit www.uulivinglegacy.org. Don't miss your chance to be on the bus! Register early.

Happy Birthday Celebration with Fatoumata Gassama Family



Exploring Buddhism

by Sandy Brooks

In a thoughtful and provocative series of ten sessions, we were treated to an exploration of Buddhism by Dr. Marvin Levine, a retired Professor from Stony Brook. He lifted up key issues from

his book, "The Positive Psychology of Buddhism and Yoga," in which he explored the common boundaries among Buddhism, Yoga and western psychology. Beginning with the Four Noble Truths, we learned about 'dukkha,' which are troubled feelings like anger and anxieties, and how we can become more liberated from them and go on to feel more comfortable with others and within ourselves. On a personal level, I have found that sometimes as I read the *Times* and the many painful issues in the world, I need to put it down, just listen to a CD with eyes closed and clear the mind of stressful thoughts. Marvin gave us many valuable sayings from both the Buddha and the Dalai Lama, as well as humorous stories to bring the concepts to life.

Our group was very positive about our sessions, and delighted to learn that in October/November (again on Thursday evenings) Dr. Levine will offer another course, "The Philosophy of Yoga."

Join us in the Fall as we continue to explore one of the many religions we draw from as Unitarian Universalists.



HERE AT COMMUNITY

by Reena Kondo

I attended the Panel event, Frackonomics, organized by "United For Action" at Ethical Culture on April 24.

The auditorium was packed. I estimated about 425 people. About 24 plus organizations had supported this event, including New York and Sierra Club, groups connected to our Green Sanctuary Committee. Many tables set up by volunteers from the supporting groups were set up in the lobby offering flyers with information and discussion.

This event was unique in that it focused on the financials involved in hydrofracking.

The three speakers included:

DEBORAH ROGERS, Former financial consultant at Smith Barney and Merrill Lynch, also served on the Advisory Committee for the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas and has been featured in the NY Times and the recent Rolling Stone article, "The Big Fracking Bubble".

JANNETTE BARTH, Ph.D. Economist, principal of J.M. Barth Associates, Inc., expert on impacts of shale gas on local economics.

AL APPLETON, Former Commissioner NYC Dept. of Environmental Protection and international consultant on sustainable, water, infrastructure.

Ms. Rogers gave detailed facts establishing that for the most part the gas reserves for individual wells are vastly overstated. There is a big difference between the amount of gas underground and the amount which can be extracted with current technology.

She said that the oil and gas companies are "drilling for dollars on Wall Street." and for press releases. The large banks are their primary cheerleaders. Banks generate massive fees from shale deals.

Ms. Rogers gave many detailed facts supporting her claims. Horizontal fracking wells may supply appreciable amounts of gas at first, but they die off rather quickly, most in only 9 or 10 months, leaving a great deal of pollution and spoilage of the landscape behind. A number of the gas companies (e.g. Chesapeake Energy) are already on bankruptcy watch.

Dr. Jannette Barth said the industry is not safe and not clean. It pollutes the air and drinking water, and has been associated with earthquakes.

Frackonomics Debunking the financial myths of shale gas and embracing a green energy future

Job creation has been overhyped. There are jobs at first when the wells are being dug, but these are filled primarily by transient male workers who send money home – out of the locality and move on once the drilling is completed. Once the gas is flowing, there are few jobs.

Costs to the community are ignored e.g. infrastructure repair and pollution of air and water. There are vast declines in property values and taxes to local communities. Established industries such as farming and tourism are badly hurt. "There are no jobs on a dead planet".

Al Appleton stated that it is no use to try to create good regulations. In the real world, they will not work.

The communities will not have the money to establish sufficient inspection and surveillance, and this industry is not Ben & Jerry's. They can't afford to do it right.

They're out to get every cent they can squeeze out, and they'll leave the local people poorer in many ways.

It is necessary to look to the future and encourage the growth of clean energies. We cannot allow Hydrofracking because it will postpone the building up of alternative clean energy systems such as wind and solar. Green fuel is needed by the planet to forestall climate change.

Do we want to spend billions of dollars in this way on fracking? We need creativity in increasing green energy, and if hydrofracking is allowed in New York State, there will be Civil War between the frackers and farmers. Therefore,

BAN HYDROFRACKING!

The gas companies are realizing that they can only make money if they convert to liquid gas and ship overseas. Prices in U.S. will go up.

Social Tea, Music and Motivation

by Maureen Allen Holder



At our March Social Tea, we delightedly listened to several selections from seven of the musicians from the New Horizon Band. (For information on this group see the website links following this article.) The group includes the flautist, Ginny Asman, a member of Community Church, Chairperson of Gallery35 and one of the authors of *Ladies' Mile 17 Stories Up* (for information and/or to purchase go to: www.mcnally-jackson.com/bookmachine/ladies-mile-17-stories or simple google: *Ladies' Mile 17 Stories Up*).

Following, Camilla Mendoza, a life coach, asked us the question: What motivates you and drives your success? Instead of responding to the question we looked at each other in bewilderment. The answer would be too personal to admit and we were, more than likely, not prepared to tackle the question at the time. Hence, no one stirred to answer Camilla.

Bright eyed with an expressive, open smile, Camilla advised that our greatest drive was anchored in our subconscious which makes up 60-70% of our brain cells. No matter how hard we consciously endeavor to overcome the driving forces of our subconscious, our conscious self, making up only 15-20% of our brain cells, is challenged by our subconscious drives. She explained that there are three basic motivating categories:

- Beliefs – can be changed through life experiences and education.
- Values – tangibles such as money, house ... and intangibles such as integrity, honesty ...

- Drives – unconscious needs which are more often determined by the age of seven.

Camilla noted that there are a number of success drives: Fame; Recognition; Achievement; Money; Satisfaction for a job well done; Productivity; Praise; Competition; Creativity; Pursuit of Excellence; Empire Building; Contribution to Humanity.

She posited three actions and questions to help us recognize the core of our values and drives:

1. List the qualities that you would like people to remember you by. (What do you value most?)
2. List those things that make you feel good about yourself? (What is it that you do, that makes you feel good about yourself?)
3. List those things that irritate and upset you. (What bugs or disturbs you the most?)

Camilla left us with ideas to mull, thoughts to consider and actions to pursue in our quest to tackle the dominating power of our subconscious over our vulnerable conscious state. This session was a keyhole into the vitality of a two day workshop called Money Mastery for Women, which Camilla gave at Community Church's Gallery on April 28 and 29. Plans for another workshop in the fall is expected. Go to: www.moneymarketforwomen.com for more information about Camilla's workshop.

Links for New Horizon Band data:

http://www.newhorizonsmusic.org/home_page/concept_and_philosophy.html

http://www.thirdstreetmusicschool.org/programs_adult.htm and a video at

<http://www.thirdstreetmusicschool.org/multimedia.htm>

“This was the best Action For Justice Sunday ever.”

That was the sentiment expressed by more than one person filing out of the Hall Of Worship on Sunday May 13. The featured speaker was author, journalist and social critic Chris Hedges. His talk, *“Where Were You When They Crucified My Lord”* criticizing the American religious as well as secular establishment for not doing enough to publicly challenge the powers that be on a broad range of social justice issues, drew a standing ovation. His Q&A session afterwards downstairs in the Assembly Hall kept the rapt attention of the large crowd that stayed on to listen. We'll have more in the September issue of *Connections*.
~ Russell Branca

HERE AT COMMUNITY

Community Circles Are Starting Again!!

I nod to a passing stranger, and the stranger nods back, and two human beings go off, feeling a little less anonymous.

~ Robert Brault

While the spirit of neighborliness was important on the frontier because neighbors were so few, it is even more important now because our neighbors are so many. ~ Lady Bird Johnson



We are very excited to start offering Community Circles again this fall. You may have heard of them (some call them small group ministries or covenant groups) and wondered about these groups.

What are they?

Community circles give you an opportunity to think and listen deeply. Community circles are organized in small groups (no larger than 8 people) and provide an opportunity for people to share their thoughts and beliefs on a topic while everyone listens. Each gathering is focused on a different topic. The topics can be anything from karma to joy to tolerance. There is a brief reading and several questions offered to help guide the sharing. As always, there will be brief closing words. Each group will have a facilitator who will come prepared with the topic, reading and questions.

The group agrees to a simple covenant based upon being fully present and sharing. Since there is no "cross-talk", everyone has the chance to share their experiences and beliefs without interruption or question. We give each other the gift of listening.

What is so wonderful about Community Circles?

The facilitators have been part of circles in the past and have found them to be incredibly empowering and strengthening experiences.

"I had the chance to get to know others in a more authentic way. When I listened to others share, I found commonalities that I wouldn't have expected. I also learned more about myself as I examined what I thought and believed about these themes. My circle provided me with a safe place to speak and listen, leaving me feeling more peaceful and whole," said Laura Breach. After participating in a small group ministry circle for almost a year, Nancie March was motivated to facilitate a circle at Community.

How do they work?

Circles will be starting in late September/early October and will meet every other week for eight sessions. Since we have several facilitators, they will be offered both on Sunday after service and during the week. The nature of the group is based upon sharing and forming bonds, (and it is a short term commitment), so please plan to attend all circles. The circle meetings will last about one and a half to two hours. After the eight weeks, the members can decide to continue as a group if they so desire. We have one circle group at Community Church that has enjoyed it so much, they have continued together for years!!

Join us for during the summer session and get acquainted with the facilitators and the format of Community Circles. Together we will nurture connections, foster meaningful conversations and build community.

Summer Session:

Thursdays, June 14, July 26 and August 23 – 6:30 – 8 pm

For more information please contact:

Laura Breach, laurabreach@gmail.com

Nancie March Arnegger, nmarch13@yahoo.com,

Ruth Miller, pileated43@yahoo.com

Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator, vlynch@ccny.org or 212-683-4988 ext. 19 or

Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education, erosado@ccny.org.

Summer Minister ~ Daniel Gregoire

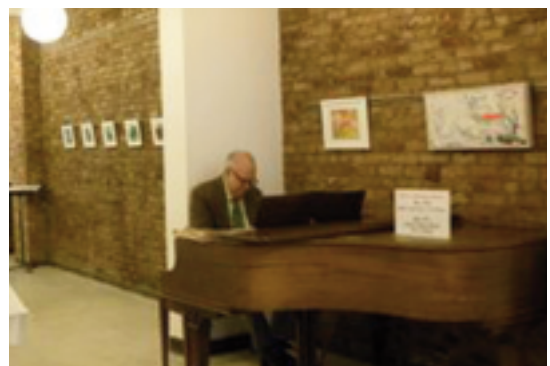
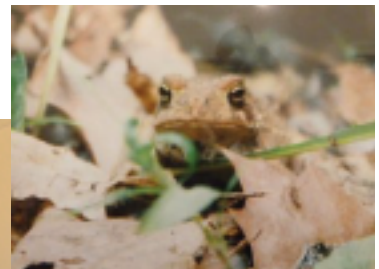
Daniel Gregoire rejoins us in June as our Summer Minister. In addition to leading worship, preaching several Sundays, and being available for pastoral care, Daniel will be leading several classes.

Congratulations to Daniel on receiving his Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary. In late August, he will begin his internship at the UU Church in Annapolis, Maryland.

HERE AT COMMUNITY



The Green Show ~ April 14-June 23



HERE AT COMMUNITY

Summer Vacation, 1972

The final day of my first year of
teaching finally crept its way into the present --
a reprieve from the battlefield
of that inner city school at long last.

Every morning
driving out in the country
observing the cows --
Holsteins. Brown Swiss,
Guernseys, Herefords,
Jerseys
their placid serenity and beauty providing
a soothing presence for my exhausted mind
and spirit.

Feathery wild asparagus edging the highway
wild raspberries hidden in the woods
warm from the sun.
wild grapes, a promise
in forests and fields.

In my wanderings,
a glimpse of a red fox, slipping in between
the tall, ancient trees,
woodchucks grazing in a wildflower dotted
meadow.

squirrels acrobating from tree to tree,
calling out messages
in their chatter language.

Nature serving to set me right again.



Ruth M. Miller

June 28, 2005

Revised 7/27/07

Very slightly revised 2/14/09

Radically revised 2/21/09

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO COMMUNITY'S OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

- **George Martin is here Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons and occasionally on Monday.**
- **Russell Branca volunteers Wednesday afternoons.**
- **Sal Seda is here Thursday mornings.**
- **Elee Woods is here Friday afternoons to help stuff the Orders of Service.**

These wonderful volunteers help with answering the phone and the busy doorbell. George, Russell and Sal also help with stuffing/labeling our many publications and mailings.

We would appreciate more office volunteers especially on Monday morning/afternoon, Thursday afternoon, and Friday morning/afternoon. If you have time available during the day, please consider offering your gift of time. It gives the staff a chance to get to know you better too. That is the best gift of all. If you can help, please be in touch with Robert Martin, our Church Administrator at 212-683-4988 ext. 20

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2012

- **Sunday, June 3, 12:45 pm Congregational Quarterly Meeting**
- **Sunday, June 10, 2 pm pm Congregational By-Laws Meeting**
Continuation of discussion regarding proposed By-Law Revisions.
- **Sunday, June 17, 12:45 pm Special Congregational Meeting**
with Margaret Keyser, Conflict Transformation Consultant

Resistance Cinema

Sundays, 1:15 pm, Gallery

June 10, CANCELLED

June 24. *Slavery By Another Name*

July/August schedule to be announced.

UU Christian Fellowship, Front Lounge

Tuesdays, June 5, 7:30 pm,

MNY-UUCF, a local chapter of the national UU Christian Fellowship (UUCF), is led by the Rev. Kelly Murphy Mason, a UU community minister and former Vice-President of the UUCF. The chapter meets the first Tuesday of every month at Community for fellowship and discussion, religious education, and spiritual deepening.

Anti-Racism Team ~ Popcorn & Opinions,

Friday, June 1, 6:30 pm, Gallery

Film: *Malcolm X*

Join the members of the Anti-Racism Team as we continue to expand our horizons.

Social Tea

Tuesday, June 26, 2-3:30 pm, Assembly Hall

Join us for a guest speakers, light refreshments and conversation.

Green Sanctuary's Future Visions

7 pm, Gallery (dates to be announced)

Secular Humanist Society of NY – Book Club

Thursday, June 7, 6:30-8:30 pm, Front Lounge

(Titles to be announced)

Arabic Language Workshop, Front Lounge

Saturday, June 12 from 10 am until 2 pm

Join us as members and friends continue our exploration of the Arabic language by learning simple phrases, questions and answers, and holiday greetings. Correct pronunciation will be stressed and different dialects will be covered. A rudimentary knowledge of the Arabic alphabet is strongly recommended.

***Twelve Steps to A Compassionate Life* Study Group**

Monday, June 4, 7-9 pm, Rear Lounge

A new study group will discuss the new book ***“Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life”*** by religious historian/theologian Karen Armstrong. Dr. Armstrong recommends at the end of each session introducing one regular practice into each member's life... “ways in which your actions can become a dynamic and positive force for change, not just within yourself but in the world around you...” More sessions will be scheduled soon. Contact Esther Rosado erosado@ccny.org to express interest.

(Led by Rev. Susan Karlson, minister of the Unitarian Church of Staten Island and Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education.)

Circle Suppers – Saturday, June 16, 6:30 pm (off-site)

Action for Justice will be sponsoring upcoming Circle Suppers. They will be potluck dinners, meeting at a host's home (Location to be announced). The first hour will include a discussion of a current event or situation (like the economy). For more information contact Karen Hoover at threecatshoover@rcn.com or 917-304-1217

Community Circles – Starting in the Fall

At long last, Community Circles are again forming! Participants will get to know one another on a deep level through conversation and listening. The first two proposed groups will meet on **Sundays, 9 am and 1 pm**, beginning in the fall. Watch for exact dates. If you would like to explore with us, please contact Valerie Lynch, 212-683-4988 ext. 19 or vlynch@ccny.org.

A shorter Summer Circle is starting **Thursday, June 14, 6:30-8 pm**. Contact Valerie Lynch.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2012 continued

Religious Education/Family Ministries Celebration/Picnic Sunday, June 10th, Front & Rear Lounge and Backyard

First Saturday Feeding of the Hungry in the Bowery Saturdays, June 2, July 7, August 4, 10:45 am

We invite you to help the Sai Baba Group feed the hungry on the First Saturday of each month. We meet on Forsyth, just south of Houston at 10:45 am. Please bring vegetarian food to share with the over 100 people who come. This is an outdoor event so dress for the weather. For more information contact Valerie Lynch at vlynch@ccny.org or 212-683-4988.

Spiritual Journeys Tuesday, July 10

Please join us for the last spiritual journey of the church year as we visit the only Greek-speaking synagogue in the Western hemisphere, Kehila Kedosha Janina on Broome St. on the Lower East Side. Cost of \$20 per person includes a tour of the sanctuary and museum, and a kosher Greek lunch. For more information and to reserve your space (required), please contact Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education.

JUNETEENTH

Friday, June 22, 5:30-9 pm Gallery/Front Lounge

Won't you help me sing, these songs of freedom? Join us for our annual JUNETEENTH celebration, co-sponsored by the Community Church of NY Anti-Racism Team and The People's Institute for Survival and Beyond. This year's event will be a sing-along featuring African-American gospel songs and other songs of freedom. This is a POTLUCK event, so please bring food or drink to share! For more information or to volunteer, please contact Brenda Carpenter Osayim at 914.299.6333.

Community Church of NY's annual JUNETEENTH was created in collaboration with the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond.

Reiki with Renee June 14, 28 and July 12, 26, 7-8:30 pm, Rear Lounge

Come join Renee Joey Morelli, advanced Reiki Practitioner, for an evening discovering how to enhance your life with Reiki and Meditation. Reiki is a Japanese technique for stress reduction and relaxation that also promotes healing. Reiki treats the whole person including body, emotions, mind and spirit by balancing the life force energy that come from within. Learn how Reiki can be a simple, natural and safe method of spiritual healing and self-improvement that everyone can use.

PotluckAntiracistalliance.com Potluck and Juneteenth
Friday, June 22, 5:30, in the Gallery/Front Lounge
Everyone is invited – Held the third Friday of each month

Summer Music Service – Sunday, July 15

Mid-Summer Messiah – Sunday, August 26

Coverage Of The Uua General Assembly In Phoenix

Events at General Assembly will be covered extensively on UUA.org and by the UU World. The UU World will provide timely reports and articles on their GA Blog, illustrated by some striking selections from their Photostream on Flickr.

See <http://www.uua.org/ga/2012/>

Timeline for *Connections* Publication (time sensitive)

Issues as follows:

Due 1st Wednesday(*)

September Homecoming single issue
(articles due 8/1/12)*

October/November issue
(articles due 9/5/12)*

December/January holiday issue)
(articles due 11/7/12)*

February/March
(articles due 1/2/13)*

April/May issue
(articles due 3/6/13)*

June/July/August summer Issue
(articles due 5/1/13)*

Events Calendar for June 2012

FRIDAY, JUNE 1 6:30 Antiracism Team	SATURDAY, JUNE 9 9:00 Healthy Congregations 10:00 Arabic Language Workshop	SUNDAY, JUNE 17 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour Special Congregational Meeting with Margaret Keyser	SUNDAY, JUNE 24 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 1:15 Resistance Cinema	WEDNESDAY, JULY 4, Fourth of July Holiday
SATURDAY, JUNE 2 10:45 1st Saturday Feeding	SUNDAY, JUNE 10 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour RE Sunday/Picnic 2:00 Congregational By-laws Meeting	TUESDAY, JUNE 19 7:00 Streetsingers	MONDAY, JUNE 25 6:00 NYC UU Ministers	THURSDAY, JULY 5 6:30 Secular Humanist Society
SUNDAY, JUNE 3 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UN Global Affairs 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Congregational Quarterly Meeting	MONDAY, JUNE 11 5:30 Committee on Ministry	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20 6:00 Finance Committee 6:00 Textile Study Group General Assembly	TUESDAY, JUNE 26 2:00 Social Tea	FRIDAY, JULY 6 Church office Closed
MONDAY, JUNE 4 7:00 12 Steps To Compassionate Life	TUESDAY, JUNE 12 7:00 Streetsingers	THURSDAY, JUNE 21 General Assembly	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27 6:00 Board of Trustees 6:30 Sipping & Searching	SATURDAY, JULY 7 10:45 1st Saturday Feeding
TUESDAY, JUNE 5 7:00 Streetsingers 7:30 UU Christian Fellowship	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13 6:00 Church Council	FRIDAY, JUNE 22 5:30 Junteenth 5:30 Antiracist Alliance.com Potluck General Assembly	THURSDAY, JUNE 28 7:00 Green Sanctuary 7:00 Reiki	SUNDAY, JULY 8 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UN Global Affairs 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6 6:00 Buildings & Grounds	THURSDAY, JUNE 14 6:30 Community Circle 7:00 Reike	SATURDAY, JUNE 23 3:00 Gallery35 Final Show Reception General Assembly	SUNDAY, JULY 1 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UN Global Affairs 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour	Church Office <u>Summer Hours</u> 9 am to 5:30 pm Monday to Thursday through August 31st
THURSDAY, JUNE 7 6:30 Secular Humanist Society	FRIDAY, JUNE 15 7:00 Esperanto Society			
	SATURDAY, JUNE 16 10:30 Action For Justice 6:30 Circle Suppers			

FOR MORE Adult Religious Education and June/July/August (Summer) Opportunities/Events see pages 10-11

Rev. Bruce Southworth, Senior Minister
 Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education
 Gerald A. Brown, Director of Music
 Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator
 Rev. Dr. Anthony P. Johnson, Affiliated Minister
 Robert G. Martin, Business Administrator
 Daniel Gregoire, Summer Minister

COMMUNITY
connections

The Community Church of New York
 Unitarian Universalist
 40 East 35th Street
 New York, N.Y. 10016
www.ccny.org
 Tel: 212.683.4988



Have A Great Summer! ~ Be Back in September

ISSUE: FORTY EIGHT

Our Community, Here At Community, Calendars
 and much more...

Deadline for September issue due August 1, 2012

COMMUNITY connections

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF NEW YORK
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Growing Souls, Doing Justice, and Being Bold in a Caring Community since 1825

Issue 49 • September 2012

General Assembly ~ June 20-24, 2012 at Phoenix, AZ

Here At Community

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Impressions: Justice GA 2012

by Sandy Brooks

Upon returning to New York after attending GA in Phoenix, Arizona a friend at Community Church asked me "what was the highlight for you?" It was a fine question but a most challenging one. The rich and rewarding experience left me with a myriad of emotions, new knowledge, and a host of very satisfying connections, both new and old. One cannot help but feel enriched when surrounded with close to 3,000 fellow UUs all committed to the concept of social justice.

There were, of course, some 'highlights.' Often the problem was that there were two sessions scheduled simultaneously and often I had to make a choice. This worked rather well since at the moments we'd meet over lunch, coffee or a break in time we could share with one another what we had experienced.

The theme of Immigration was one which dominated most of the sessions, and being in Arizona where so much national focus has been in the recent past made for a heightened intensity. Both the actions of the Governor and Sheriff Arpaio, covered in the national news seemed more real as I spent five days to see how connected the Immigration focus was to many disturbing issues in a supposed democratic society. Over and again the concept of "the other," whose skin color, language and culture were different, forced unequal treatment sanctioned by local and state government. A session titled "Dreamers and the Dream" which was a project of UU Church of Arlington was very moving to me. Two young Hispanic people presented, and I thrilled to



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HERE AT COMMUNITY

New Members

*Welcome to new members
who have joined 2012*

Gustavo and Helen Caro
Gil Corby
Paul Dejean
Kenly Dillard
Gregory A. Jones
Stephanie Kilg
Roberto Laracuente
Eberly Mareci
Renee Morelli
Jova Vargas

Goings on This Summer

This summer was one of the hottest summers I have experienced. I cooled off by spending an hour each day at the Vanderbilt Y pool doing "arthritis water exercise." Another activity was playing for the July 15 Sunday service. I received a lot of compliments for my Debussy piece.

On August 12, I will be playing Gershwin duets for the prelude and postlude with another musician.

I love performing my piano works.
~ Lois Ross



BIRTHDAYS

September 2012

- 1 Michelle Asencio
- 2 Jeannette Juanita Gilmore
Maximo Martinez-Arocho
- 4 Carol Apicella
Barbara Phillips
Molly Scott
- 7 Hope Johnson
Janice Marie Johnson
- 8 David Asencio
Jil Novenski
- 12 Fiona Hinds
- 14 Rakisha White
- 15 Marvin Carlson
- 18 Robert McNatt
- 20 Kay Xanthakos
- 22 Anthony Torchio
Christopher Asencio
- 27 Laretta Jakobsen
- 28 Denise Mumm
- 29 Samuel Gale

IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness I report the death of **Evan Frances Agnew**, age 95. In July, she moved from Manhattan to be near her family in Newton, MA, and we hold her, her children, and their families in our thoughts and prayers. A Memorial Service was held at Community on Wednesday, August 22 at 11 a.m.

Devoted to her family, Evan was a retired journalist and a professional member of the American Society of Interior Designers and loved music, architecture and design. We give thanks for her life and caring spirit.

Leona Feyer, age 93, died on August 29. Last winter she had moved from her home on 21st Street to Jewish Home Lifecare center on 106th St. A retired social worker who joined Community in 1998, Leona was a lively conversationalist and deeply committed to social change, with a caring spirit for her friends and all whom she served in her professional life. She also loved to dance.

We shall announce plans for her Memorial Service when those arrangements are made.

Rev. Bruce Southworth

Justice GA 2012: A Very Personal Reflection

By Daniel Gregoire



Justice General Assembly (GA) in Phoenix left me feeling empowered and even more committed to Unitarian Universalism. GA an incredible learning and faith forming experience, one that every UU should have. The most important message and challenge of GA was the notion that faith has to equal action in the world, otherwise it is meaningless. And, *WE* actually did just that when thousands of UUs gathered one night to witness to the unjust and inhumane conditions at the Maricopa County Jail. Our call as UUs particularly as UUs at Community Church is go out into the world and truly become allies for change.

Moreover, our actions as UUs must be motivated by love, compassion and gratitude.

At GA we actually took our faith to the streets of Phoenix in a way that I would find hard to believe possible, had I not witnessed it with my own eyes. I am talking about our vigil at Sheriff Joe Arpiao's infamous "Tent City" on Saturday, June 23. To get there that night we boarded hundreds of yellow school buses and even then there were still folks who wanted to participate but could not, for lack of buses. When we all arrived there were thousands of us in bright yellow t-shirts, with flickering electronic candles in our hands, standing in the hot desert air, in front of the Maricopa County Jail witnessing to the abuses taking place in "Tent City", which is an outdoor, extension site for the overcrowded, main jail building complex.

It would be easy to describe the scene as one of effective and well organized protest; but, really it was so much more than that.

The scene was in effect a mass "worship" experience. We were saying, with our stories, candles and prayers, and singing, that as a *religious* people who fervently believe in the inherent worth of people, documented or undocumented, we would not stand for the abuses that were happening in our own country. We were not in that desert because we were angry, we were there because we are deeply loving and wanting to stand firmly on the side of love. The "Spirit" was there the whole time too, call it whatever you like: God, Yahweh, "Life", I felt it very deeply. Additionally, we were asked to be there as allies by our partners, the local advocacy groups, such as Puente; who have long protested the existence and justification of Tent City.

Of course, GA was more than this particular vigil. It was Justice based workshops, and thought-provoking lectures and soul-stirring worship services with over 3,800 UUs in attendance at the posh and climate-controlled Phoenix Convention Center! Nevertheless, all of these things were a preparation, (it certainly prepared me) for the encounter with *Love* in the desert, that was our vigil at Tent City. And, I never expected such an encounter. The struggle for full human rights for undocumented migrants, and others will continue in Arizona and elsewhere in the country. GA has taught me that we are most true to our faith as UUs



when we live, what one GA workshop presenter termed: "our calling in the world". Justice GA was certainly a good place to start living our call. I hope we can all be inspired this experience.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

continued on page 2

Dear Members of Community Church,

It is with great joy and pride that we would like to announce Evelen's graduation on May 29th, 2012 from Hunter College, CUNY. Just days ago (it is now the end of July that this article is being written), Evelen received an email advising her that her degree audit is, finally, completed. It is now official!

As a homeschooler from kindergarten through her high school years until college, Evelen's world was enormously enriched by her Sundays at Community, extended in the Spring by those memorable long weekends, first at Hudson Guild and later at Warwick. From the time she was three, Evelen attended Sunday School every Sunday until the 7½ difficult years when she was seriously ill with Lyme disease. But even through those challenging times, Community Church was always a large part of her world. There were the Halloween and Holiday parties, the Seders, Special Friends Sundays, and countless other activities in which she joined whenever possible, even though she was still so ill and taking heavy medications for the Lyme disease.

As Evelen grew older, she began to participate in committee work, serving on the Hospitality and Religious Education committees, as Youth Liaison to the Board, and later elected as a full member of the Board of Trustees, transitioning under the wise and caring guidance of Marilyn Travis, Chair. The incredibly rich environment Evelen was surrounded by, and participated in, at Community provided her with an enormous wealth of interpersonal experience, not to mention cultural and historical knowledge, all of which became a strong foundation as she navigated what was, to her, a totally foreign environment – the academic school setting. Fellow college

students; professors; deadlines for assignments, so many of which would be challenging to even the most seasoned college student; the mind boggling tangle of the Hunter administration, all of which were new to her. Yet somehow, with the help of her background

from Community to draw on (of which she was quite aware and remarked on often), she did succeed. There is the saying, "It takes a village to raise a child." Community Church has been in large part that village for Evelen!

It is not so long ago that we thought none of this could ever come to pass, yet Evelen graduated magna cum laude with her major in English Language, Literature, and Criticism and her minor in German Language. She earned a membership in Phi Beta Kappa, Golden Key International Honour Society, Delta Phi Alpha (the National German Honorary Society), Departmental Honors from the English Department, and received several awards, two of which included first place prizes for her critical writing. We share this

with you all not to brag, though we are enormously proud of Evelen, but to allow you to realize what an impact you all had on her life. Ministers of Religious Education, Tracy Robinson Harris and Janice Marie Johnson led chapel services that were always a highlight of Evelen's week (she would often say so!) and our Senior Minister, Bruce Southworth, Evelen's minister for all of her life, was always, and remains a supportive and influential figure for her.

It is for all these reasons we feel such gratitude to Community Church: to its ministers, to Evelen's classmates and teachers in the Church School, to adult church members and staff, THANK YOU!

And congratulations to Evelen!

Sincerely,
Nancy and Phil Hough



Pipe Organ Rededication Date to be Announced Concert/Reception

Our organ will be back soon!
We will celebrate with a
Celebratory Organ Concert
and Reception.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

GA (by Brooks) *continued from page 1*

the active participation on their part in making the Dream Act a reality. Although my work with ESL students in NYC gave me many insights as to the problems they deal with, here were young people hoping, planning, and doing things to make changes.

The session "Bringing the Doctrine of Discovery Back Home" taught me how this historical document impacted on the world and what its connection was to immigration issues. Both at this session as well as others, there were materials to help bring back the topic to our own congregations.

At the UUSC Gala I heard Anita Hill in dialog with Bill Schulz on issues of race, gender and economic injustice. Was it really over 20 years ago that she was in the spotlight fighting a personal injustice?

A most powerful presentation was that of Maria Hinajosa who gave the 2012 Ware lecture. The poignant focus was on the detention and deportation of immigrants, both legal and not.

I had long heard her on NPR, PBS and CNN as a sensitive, crusading journalist and her presentation was received with well deserved appreciation from the attendees

who got a glimpse into behaviors that are eroding a free society.

Not all of my experiences were heavy duty issues. I joined Jennifer Friedman and Rev. Dana Lightsey in "Dances of Universal Peace." Moving in circles with live musical accompaniment, we chanted, used sacred phrases and joined together in movements of world traditions. I thrilled to the range of ages in joyous connection as we moved body and soul.

Strolling through the Exhibit Hall, I noted two long tables that were part of the HUUMANIST booth. These were covered with books. As a former librarian I was drawn to the offerings. My shock came as I learned that this was just a sampling of Banned Books by the Tucson Unified School District. Banned books? My mind raced back to those of my growing up years and before:

Lady Chatterley's Lover, *Tropic of Cancer*, *Lolita*, *Lysistrata* and yes, even *Huckleberry Finn*. But what was this list in 2012 in the USA, in Arizona? I was shocked to find so many of my favorites displayed for you and me but removed and disallowed in the school system: *Like Water for Chocolate* by Esquivel, *Women Hollering Creek* by Cisneros, *Ten Little Indians* by Alexie and

Civil Disobedience by Thoreau. And, worst of all, Howard Zinn's *People's History of the United States*.

My feelings were uplifted to know that under the aegis of the HUUMANIST group with the work of Tony Lopez and others, Many of these titles were purchased, boxed and SHIPPED TO THE PUBLIC LIBRARY to allow access to materials that might engender new awareness, new acceptance of immigrant groups.

Didn't they burn books in Germany, burn the Koran in Florida not too long ago? If information isn't free, can the society be civil?

As the GA ended with a powerful sermon by Rev. John Crestwell, I took away the pleasure of having re-connected with folks who had been part of Community Church: Susan Rak, Suzanne Marsh (both of whom have their own churches now) Rev. Tracy Sprowls Jenks, Rev. Cheryl Walker. Carrying the banner for Community Church was meaningful as were the words of Peter Morales that I recalled from an issue of *World* magazine:

"Bring home GA to your congregations." Those of us who attended will no doubt do that as we continue to do the work of social justice.

2012 Annual Activities and Committee Fair Sunday, September 30

By the time you are reading this, members of the Church Council will be working on the annual Committee Fair which will take place on September 30, 2012. This event is a perfect opportunity to find out more about the committees and to see how their work contributes to the life and well being of our congregation. You can also find out how you can join one that interests you. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Ruth Miller
Chair, Church Council



Last year's Committee Fair

HERE AT COMMUNITY

“The Most Radical Place in America”— Worship, Sunday, September 30

Dr. Daniel McKanan, Emerson Professor of Harvard Divinity School, will be our guest preacher on Sunday, September 30. A discussion will follow the Activities Fair at 1:30 pm.

The Community Church stands in a proud lineage: for more than a hundred years before John Haynes Holmes came to New York City,

“free churches,” “union churches,” and “people’s churches” were in the vanguard of the labor, abolitionist, and women’s rights movements. In his sermon, Dr. McKanan will share some of these stories and show how freestanding local congregations can continue to be the most radical places in America.



“Where Were You When They Crucified My Lord?”

Chris Hedges at Community Church NY — Action For Justice Sunday May 13, 2012

by Russell Branca



“This was the best Action For Justice Sunday ever” — That was the sentiment expressed by more than one person filing out of the Hall Of Worship on Sunday May 13. The featured speaker was author, journalist and social critic Chris Hedges. The title of his talk, “Where Were You When They Crucified My Lord”, comes from an old Black spiritual. In it he criticized the American religious as well as secular establishment for not doing enough to publicly challenge the powers that be on a broad range of social justice issues. At the end it drew a prolonged standing ovation.

Right from his opening words, a simple yet forceful declaration, *“The Occupy movement is the last force left that will revitalize traditional Christianity in the United States or signal its moral, social and political irrelevance”*. Hedges established a magnetic presence with his audience.

He then proceeded to deftly weave his message much in the style and cadence of a country preacher using the title of his speech, “Where Were You When They Crucified My Lord?” As a returning refrain, gradually building momentum until it reached its climax and was repeated one last time as a conclusion.

The central idea that propelled the sermon forward was that there has been an abnegation on the part of the institutions of society, both religious and secular, of the moral responsibility to speak out

against the injustice of the powerful. This abnegation reflects a moral and ethical deterioration by the well-educated, privileged classes that are at the centers of power. Citing the beatitudes from the Sermon On The Mount, Hedges reveals that he is from that rare breed of persons who believe that they were written to be taken literally and seriously. As he says *“the opposite of good is not evil. The opposite of good is indifference”*. It is that conviction that makes him such a compelling and persuasive figure.

As a correspondent for the *NY Times* his direct experience of the immense human suffering in war zones around the world gives his voice a very dramatic and deeply moving personal authority. And yet, he is also at home in the abstract world of ideas. The sermon was punctuated regularly with the thoughts and ideas of a wide range of figures from the intellectual, artistic, and activist worlds such as W.H. Auden, Hannah Arendt, Eugene Debs, Susan B. Anthony, Martin Luther King, Rabbi Abraham Heschel, Socrates, Immanuel Kant, Langston Hughes and others.

The Q&A session downstairs in the Assembly Hall afterwards, which



lasted over an hour, kept the rapt attention of the large crowd that stayed on to listen.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

Musical Benefit

On Sunday, October 14, at 1:30 pm, Joel Mandelbaum will be presenting a program, mostly of his own music, for the benefit of the Organ Restoration Project.

The concert will be free and open to the public, but it is hoped that you will bring your checkbooks so that you can make tax-exempt donations to the funding of the project.

The program will consist mostly of songs and arias performed by two of the outstanding recent graduates of Queens College, but will also include chamber music, with Philip and Nancy Hough among the performers. The program will include Joel's settings of Brenda Carpenter's poem as well as the premiere of his setting of Shakespeare commissioned by the Birchall family, both awards of the Community Church auctions in the last few years.



The rest of the program will explore the fascinating issues that arise when a piece of vocal music with text is "converted" into purely instrumental music. Can the music retain its impact without the text that gave it life in the first place? Is knowledge of that text an important contributor to experiencing the music when it is performed without the text? What are the various reasons why a composer (or someone coming along after) might want to supplement the sung music with a version without words?

It is hoped that the program, in addition to supplying attractive music beautifully performed, will stimulate interest in the relationship of music and text, and will provide new perspectives.

And that it will raise money for the organ fund.

Juneteenth Celebration

by Brenda Carpenter

Juneteenth was fabulous, albeit slightly under-attended. A fierce electrical storm hit at approximately 3 pm, just about the time for everyone who was going to come to leave home. A couple of people showed up soaking wet, despite the storm, including one visitor from the UU Fellowship of North Hollywood, Florida, who had heard about the event from a friend. I'd say there were 20-25 people altogether, although I truly forgot to count. The music was GREAT: Russell Branca played live jazz from 6 to 7 pm with a world-class jazz musician, Danny Mixon. Everyone in the audience was wowed. We started the program pretty much on time with the Black National Anthem. Only two people from the Undoing Racism™ group attended, Mark Levine and the Reverend Kenneth Radcliffe, and Mark made the welcoming remarks on behalf of Sandy Bernabie, who did not attend. I gave a quick overview of the history of Juneteenth and tried to tie it into Esther Rosado's Common Read: *The New Jim Crow* this past spring. Then we sang our spirituals, each one introduced by a paragraph from the International Library of Negro Life and History.. Each paragraph was read by a different person in order to maximize participation, and the only thing we forgot to do was use the mic that Russell had so graciously provid-

ed at the last moment. Dionne McClain Freeney's accompaniment to the hymns was outstanding (which is why we hired her). Fay Bennett-Lord went around the room and had each person introduce himself/herself, which was an excellent idea since there were so few in attendance and we had plenty of time to do so. She then read the letter of greeting from Bruce Southworth in Arizona, followed by an announcement from Russell regarding the Resistance Cinema screening of *Slavery by Another Name* the following Sunday (June 24). Phyllis Andrews and Fay Bennett-Lord passed the baskets and we collected \$92.00. Then we had a presentation, "Imagining the Dream," by Vera Lilly, Suzie Engel and Eric Coleman, with Dionne McClain-Freeney on the piano. Gary Geoghegan closed with a wonderful, warm, inspiring benediction, then we sang our closing hymn and the whole thing was over in one hour and fifteen minutes. The food worked out perfectly: we had 3-bean pasta salad, broiled chicken, hummus, dips, chips, wine, apple juice, bottled water and cookies — as I said, perfect, for such a small group of people. A few people hung around for dessert and coffee and to help clean up and we were out of there by 9:00 pm!

United Nations/Global Affairs Committee Update

by Fay Bennett Lord

For over fifty (50) years, on the Sunday, closest to UN Day (October 24th), the United Nations and Global Affairs Committee (UNGAC) of CCNY, has invited outstanding UN dignitaries and global scholars to celebrate the anniversary and founding of the United Nations (1945). The UN was founded to stop wars between countries and to provide a platform for dialogue. It contains multiple specialized organizations to carry out its missions. Its aims include facilitating cooperation in international law, international security, economic development, social progress, human rights, and achievement of world peace.

There are currently 193 member states in the UN, including every internationally recognized sovereign state in the world (Palestine has yet to be fully recognized, Vatican City has Observer Status and last year the New Republic of South Sudan was the newest member admitted; see the UNGAC's Tenth Anniversary program of 9/11/2011 videotaped by Prof. O. McAllister, featuring renowned speakers on South Sudan and Ethiopia, Dr. Jessica Kindred and Abaynesh Asrat, available (\$15) from the UNGAC table at Community or contact flord459@aol.com).

The UNGAC of Community Church, with its proximity to the UN, offers UN tours, educational programs, diverse speakers, regional updates on global concerns, collaborative projects, seminars, conferences on environmental issues, and affiliated status with the UU-UN office, located at 777 UN Plaza, NYC.

Under the leadership of our current chair, George Garland (gagarland@gmail.com), vice-chair, Nicole Lord (Nlord518@aol.com), Senior Minister, Rev. Bruce Southworth (bsouthworth@ccny.org), majority whip, David Strachan (davidstrachan@optonline.net), and UN liaison to the council, Theresa Bowman t726hart@gmail.com), among many others, the UNGAC has encouraged Community Church, its youth, and the broader community to become more proactive about the United Nations and its Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Significant strides have been made toward these Goals since 2005, which include: **1) End Poverty and Hunger;** **2) Universal Education;** **3) Gender Equality;** **4) Child Health;** **5) Maternal Health;** **6) Combat HIV/AIDs;** **7) Environmental Sustainability;** and **8) Global Partnership(s).** From UNICEF's "State of the World's Children, 2012," about 39 million adolescent girls are missing out on an education, and two thirds of the world's 796 mil-



lion illiterate adults are women (see report highlights). With 7 billion people on this planet earth, 2.6 billion people—40% of the world's population—are still without access to a toilet or latrine. Yet, in our humble way, the UNGAC has fought for progress in countries, such as Ethiopia, to improve the health of women and children (via Knowledge Ethiopia, Global Earth Trustees Network, and Nation to Nation Networking, 2006-12). At the UN level, three important targets on poverty, slums and water have been met by the efforts of the world community, three years ahead of the designated 2015 MDG progress chart (for details, see UN- MDG Report, 2012). In the lead-up to Rio +20 (UN Conference was held in June 2012), the 2012 World Water Day emphasized the importance of universal access to water to end famine, drought and political instability. In every region of the developing world, the percentage of people living on less than \$1.25 a day, and the number of the poor, declined between 2005-10, according to estimates released by the World Bank (www.worldbank.gov). Despite remaining challenges, encouraging results regarding the decline of extreme poverty have been noted.

Political changes in the Arab world have also precipitated uprisings in Egypt and greater demands for democracy around the globe. The UNGAC, last October, presented Ahmed Elabd, as guest speaker, on the **Arab Spring Uprising** and its global impact.

The UNGAC will celebrate UN Sunday on October 21 – with a special 11 am worship, followed by its Fall Luncheon and afternoon program (12:45-3 pm) to further chart the progress on Women's Healthcare Outcomes in East Africa and Latin America. Dr. Jennifer Hampshire will coordinate a vegetarian luncheon (\$7). (rsvp: flord459@aol.com). The UNGAC is pleased to confirm the participation of Prof. Naima Mohamed, a social scientist, global affairs advocate for women's health and development, and specialist on East Africa, and Dr. Clifford D. DuRand, Coordinator of the Research Network in Cuba, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at Morgan State University, and Research Associate at the Center for Global Justice in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico.

Professor Mohamed, a Somali-American educator, wrote her doctoral thesis with a focus on health outcomes, particularly among women in Somalia, Ethiopia, and Kenya. Naima Mohamed's life experiences reflect the variability and astuteness deemed relevant to assess current global challenges in the 21st century. Dr. Durand, who currently resides in Mexico, has travelled to Cuba over 19 times and comes highly recommended to speak on Latin American issues

UN Update continued from page 8

via his distinguished career and from Sandy Brooks. Dr. Durand, as a prolific writer, and renowned author, has consented to a book signing during the UN luncheon program of his most recent work, *Democracy in a Globalized State*.

Please plan to join us on October 21, at 12:45 pm. UNGAC holds its regular meetings on the first.

Sundays of the month at 9:30 am. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, Dr. Fay Bennett Lord, UNGA program coordinator, can be reached at ebennett@cnr.edu.

Guest Speakers – UN Sunday – Luncheon Program October 21, 2012

“Humanitarianism and Solidarity, Cuban Style”

by Dr. Cliff DuRand

The small nation of Cuba has been in the forefront of countries providing medical assistance in Latin America. Cuba has over 30,000 health care professionals serving in the poorest and most remote regions of 68 countries of the global South. Additionally it is providing full free medical educations to youth from many of these countries with the only requirement being that

they are to return to provide health care to their poor communities. Dr. Cliff DuRand, who has been leading educational trips to Cuba for over 20 years, will discuss Cuba's medical missions in Latin America.

He is a retired professor of social philosophy and now Research Associate at the Center for Global Justice located in Mexico. He will also talk about his new book “Recreating Democracy in a Globalized State.”

Professor of Sociology and Social Science

by Fay Bennett Lord



Naima Mohamed (left) is the Chair of the Social Science department and Instructional Staff at the College of New Rochelle (CNR), School of New Resources. Professor Mohamed teaches various courses in sociology, research methods, and public health.

Professor Mohamed has been with CNR for three years. Her primary research areas of interest include demography, HIV/AIDS research, social epidemiology, urban health research, and the impact of formal and sex education onto young girls in sub-Saharan Africa. Ms.

Mohamed is the author and presenter of two academic papers: *Gender Differentials and Condom Use among Unmarried Urban Adolescents* and *AIDS Knowledge and Risky Sexual Behavior among Young Ethiopia Females*.

Before joining CNR, Professor Mohamed was an adjunct for CNR and CUNY York College for two years. In addition to adjunct positions, Ms. Mohamed has maintained her continued passion for HIV/AIDS research through consulting and research positions with various non-profit organizations throughout New York City and NGOs.

Professor Mohamed received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Alabama State University, Montgomery, AL; M.L.A from Auburn University, Auburn, AL; M.P.H from CUNY School of Public Health, New York, NY, and her forthcoming DPH in public health from CUNY, The Graduate Center.

Members' Poetry

For Don

Amicitia Redux*

Those cool dark autumn nights
perched on the slivery bleachers
in our high school stadium
we girls were there mostly because of you boys.
The football game itself was fun
yelling out the cheers:
First and ten, do it again.
To this day, I still don't know what that means.
I remember you sitting behind me.
We were so young then.
I loved knowing that you liked me,
that you enjoyed listening to classical music
that you were so serious.
In Latin class, I sat alphabetically behind you,
how I hated translating all of those boring war stories
I never did ask you how you felt.
Now, after more years than I care to think about,
we're writing to each other electronically.
I'm discovering more of your gifts,
appreciating them, too, just as you are
appreciating mine.
Getting to know you again is a gift as well,
for which I am so very thankful.

Ruth M. Miller
February 14, 2009
revised February 20, 2009

*Friendship Restored

This has been a great summer at Community: Daniel Gregoire as summer minister, and his wise sermons, and also very good additional guest speakers, among them, Orlanda Brugnola who shared her wonderful essay, "Poetry & Cosmology." Interestingly, earlier that week in Daniel's class: "Discerning the Spirit in Word and Form", David Goldberg and I just happened to bring in poems having to do with spirituality and the cosmos. Here's an additional poem on the topic.

Musing and Music

I think the dead
can't see.

Or maybe they sense
infinite shades of spectra
know the rainbow
of everything,

see through the sea,
themselves.

What is music to the dead?
Perhaps they hear within
the wind,
tune in ultra highs
of dogs,
understand sonorous
songs of whales.

And if there is music
in space—some
say B flat—
will their non-bodies
become the wave
it makes?

~ Mary Orován
Published in Mobius, 2010

HERE AT COMMUNITY

Murray Hill & Beyond An Invitational Neighborhood Art Show! September 29 to November 10, 2012



www.gallery35nyc.com
gallery35nyc@gmail.com

by Virginia Asman

For the first time ever, Gallery35 made an artist call to the entire Murray Hill art community by inviting members of the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association and others living in the Murray Hill area to exhibit their art alongside our Gallery35 artists.

While we plan to display art highlighting the beauty of the neighborhood, works depicting other subjects will also be exhibited—hence the title “Murray Hill & Beyond.”

Please plan to welcome our guest artists—and help support Gallery35 in our efforts to achieve a greater presence in Murray Hill.

Opening Reception: Saturday, September 29th, 4-7 pm.

Closing Reception: Saturday, November 10th, 4-6 pm

Please contact the gallery for additional viewing opportunities.

GA Reflections

I was not going to attend the 2012 General Assembly—until the delegates decided two years ago that this would be a Justice GA. Then I knew I had to go to Phoenix!

I was thrilled to see Unitarian Universalists from across the continent standing together for immigrants' rights. I was proud to be part of HUUmanists' book smuggling project. This meant bringing to Arizona books that been removed from school libraries and donating them to newly established people's libraries, accessible to children and adults in low-income immigrant communities.

I was thrilled to meet some of the Arizona Unitarian Universalists who have been working to address the injustice of SB1070 and



other bad laws used to oppress immigrants and their allies. Some of these projects, such as “No More Deaths”, receive funding from the Panel for Unitarian Universalist Social Responsibility, on which I serve. The grants make a difference.

As an interim minister at congregations other than Community Church, I spoke with delegates I know from several congregations. For them to be a part of Justice GA was a reaffirmation of their commitment to Unitarian Universalism. Seeing them and fellow members of Community Church, I was proud of our commitment to social justice. And I was proud of our liberal religion.

Rev. Dr. Anthony P. Johnson
Affiliated Minister

Occupy Phoenix UUA – General Assembly 2012

by Diana Stewart

I was never so proud to be a UU than the week we occupied Phoenix. The UUA decided to set aside “business as usual” and devote the 2012 GA to education and advocacy for immigrant rights. Culminating in a candlelight vigil outside Sheriff Arpaio’s notorious Tent City, this GA called us to put our values into action. The sheriff “closed” the prisons to punish the detainees by denying them visitation with their families during our visit, but in one day at GA we raised more than \$60,000 for our ally Puente. And despite our fears that Arpaio’s call for counter protesters might lead to the threat of violence, very few showed up. However, it was heart-breaking to know that the detainees endured the torture of 110 degree heat (on a good day), while just down the road an animal shelter provided 24-hour air conditioning. As we lined up to board the school buses that made multiple trips to transport us to the vigil, I bonded with someone from California whose church had brought 50 attendees to GA! She and I sang together in the choir as well.

As a delegate from Community Church of NY, I was required to attend the business meetings of GA. There was a debate about which study issue should be selected. In the second ballot, Reproductive Rights was selected, defeating Class Issues, Modern Slavery, and Global Warming. It was thrilling to hear the many articulate young people express their opinions on these issues. I hope that in the future we will have the opportunity to discuss study proposals at Community Church of NY in advance of the General Assembly.

It was especially elucidating to hear the reports of the Committee for the *The Right Relations Team*. GA attendees would share their problems with the designated members of the committee and the committee members would run interference and share the problems raised with the entire GA. For example, on one occasion, they announced that the people of color at GA had complained that other GA attendees were mistaking them for the custodial staff. The lifting up of the complaints in and of itself was valuable to raise awareness about these matters. It made me wonder if such a committee could be helpful at Community Church of NY.

The members could present their concerns to the committee who would share these concerns (without identifying any one by name) with the general membership.

As an activist for immigrant rights, it was of course wonderful to see so many congregations from all over the country sharing their organizing experience. But it was also gratifying to learn that although many other attendees had, prior to the GA, very little involvement in these issues, their attendance at GA signaled that they might become more engaged in this issue.

GA was also an amazing opportunity to attend world class workshops such as the presentation by Michelle Alexander on her book, *The New Jim Crow* and, later, an elucidating training on how to engage the media. I was also grateful for the opportunity to learn how to help

permanent residents apply for citizenship.

Some impressions of Phoenix: a sanitized city, like the moon – only hot! I was warned not to j-walk, “Don’t step off the curb until the light is green!” A fine of \$180 is one deterrent – the other is, for the undocumented, a trip to tent city and possible deportation. The streets of Phoenix are hosed down at night. Most people don’t live in downtown Phoenix – but out in the suburbs. So it was disappointing not to see more locals near the convention center. When some people showed up with free newspapers (progressive/socialist) I took a few into the media workshop. I was unprepared for what happened next.

When I looked for the papers during the break, they had disappeared. I was told that they were not “the kind” of material to hand out here! Retrieving them from the floor, I noticed that on the back page was a full page announcement welcoming the UUA to Phoenix to demonstrate for immigrant rights! What a turn around. Suddenly, everyone wanted a copy!

No, GA wasn’t perfect. But it was a worthy beginning. And I am happy to report that two members of the West Chester, Pennsylvania UU Church were among the twenty people who packed the 3rd Circuit Court in Philly for asylum seeker Onesio on July 10. GA was close to networking heaven.



HERE AT COMMUNITY

News from our New Sanctuary Family What I Liked Most About Camp This Summer:

By Aminata Fofana (age 12):

I really enjoyed going to Camp Betsy Cox in Vermont this summer. I had a great time there. I made a lot of new friends and tried many new activities such as weaving, arts and crafts, woodshop and pottery. I made many cool bracelets, a bag, and a rag rug on a loom. In arts and crafts, I also created an acrylic painting and a drawing of a girl that took a while but was fun to do. Then, in woodshop, I made a shelf and a box. I learned how to use many machines to cut wood and make designs! In pottery I just enjoyed playing with the clay. On really hot days, it was great to go swimming in the lake to stay cool. I learned how to tread water and almost passed my swimming test to the next level! Finally, I went rope climbing. I challenged myself to be balanced on very thin ropes. I will never forget the three weeks of fun I had at Camp Betsy Cox this summer.

By Npenda Fofana (age 9):

I had a great time at Betsy Cox Camp. I took lessons in horse-back riding, tennis and weaving. Horse-back riding was fun. At first, I was afraid because I was short and could not get on. I got on after putting the saddle on and it was great. I played tennis for the first time and that was fun, too. Weaving was also enjoyable. I made a lot of friendship bracelets with different cool designs to give to all my new friends. Betsy Cox was really a special place. My cabin mates and counselors were very nice to me. I really enjoyed camp.

By Bintu Fofana (age 14):

I had a great time at the YMCA Sleepaway Camp. I stayed for two wonderful weeks. The counselors were very nice. I learned how to do many new things. I went horseback-riding and my horse's name was Rowdy. I also did archery which was easier than I thought. I played tennis, volleyball and did some art. I went kayaking and played a camp game called carpetball. This year I learned how to swim better. I practice floating and treading water. I made a lot of new friends from around the world including China, the Dominican Republic, Tennessee, Spain, Missouri, Wisconsin, and one from France. The YMCA Camp was so much fun that I am looking forward to going next year, and maybe even working there.



By Fanta Fofana (age 16) *Memories of my Month at Smith Summer Science and Engineering Program*

The Summer Science and Engineering Program at Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts was an exciting experience for me. It felt as if I was in a

completely different world, where most of the people there shared almost the same interests as me. The first two weeks I was there, I took "Designing Intelligent Robots." That was a really fun course. I learned how to use the computer program that would allow me to make my robot do what I wanted. For our final project, my partner and I both programmed our robots to play a soccer game. At first, we had some complications. We had to design our robot in a way that would help to make our project possible. I'm happy to say that we had a successful soccer game! We named it **Robolympics**.

The last two weeks I was at SSEP were full of the outdoors and nature. In "Celebrating Biodiversity", we went on a trip every day except for the last three days when we created our final presentation. Through this course, I learned to identify some plants, which is something I never thought I'd be able to do so easily! I got to explore many different plant and animal habitats as well as handle some endangered species, which was pretty cool. Through this course, I've built a tolerance for insects and unusual animals so that now I don't flinch away from them as much as I used to!

Not only did I learn to handle a red-tailed hawk, a peregrine falcon, garter snakes, a short-nosed sturgeon, and two other snakes whose names I can't remember but I also learned to identify the stinging nettle, blood root, grape vine, Virginia creeper, poison ivy, and glossy buckthorne. I even learned to tolerate insects as I became more and more familiar with them on our daily trips. I can now count as my friends dragon flies, beetles, and spiders that I have never seen before, in addition to garter snakes (only garter snakes, the others still kind of scare me), and frogs. I got to taste some plants, some of which were weird tasting, when we went to the mountains and forests. I have even gotten used to touching birds.

The time I got to handle the red-tailed hawk, we went to a field. The hawks were being taken care of by a falconer named Chris Davis. He gave me a yellow glove that the bird would recognize as the signal to come for food. Chris Davis would put a piece of food on the

The New Sanctuary Task Force gives a special thanks to Task Force Member Marlyn Klee of Judson UCC for her outstanding contribution to fundraising and organizing to enable the Fofana girls to expand their horizons at overnight camp!

HERE AT COMMUNITY

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glove and I would raise my hand. The bird would come flying towards me and land on the glove, which was thick enough so that its beak wouldn't penetrate through it when it started picking at it, which it did. As the bird landed on the glove, it would scoop up the food in its mouth. Chris said that if I wanted to take a closer look at the bird, then while it was still on my hand, I should slowly draw my arm closer to me. I watched the bird as it ate. When it was done, it looked around at everyone. Then it flew back to its perch. There was a smaller bird on the tree next to the hawk's perch, and when the hawk got there, the smaller bird would swoop down and

start attacking the hawk's tail! I was surprised that the hawk wouldn't do anything, just sit there and let the other bird attack him. Chris said the hawk would not try to defend itself because, eventually, the other bird would leave it alone.

My time at SSEP was so much fun that I just wanted to stay a bit longer. I made a lot of new friends and had a lot of freedom. It felt like I was really living the college life, but better because there were no grades, so I could just have fun learning without all that stress! I've done so many things with my new friends there, who were all not from the US, but some from different countries. All of this put together just made this an amazing summer for me!

The New Sanctuary Task Force is grateful to the Girls Action Network (GAN) for awarding Fanta Fofana a full scholarship to attend the Smith Summer Science and Engineering Program this summer. We deeply appreciate the TLC that Smith College provided to Fanta during her remarkable stay there.



OPPORTUNITIES 2012-2013

First Saturday Feeding of the Hungry in the Bowery – Saturday, September 1, 10:45 am

We invite you to help the Sai Baba Group feed the hungry on the First Saturday of each month. We meet on Forsyth, just south of Houston at 10:45 am. Please bring vegetarian food to share with the over 100 people who come. This is an outdoor event so dress for the weather. For more information contact Valerie Lynch at vlynch@ccny.org or 212-683-4988.

Secular Humanist Society of NY – Book Club Thursday, September 6, 6:30 pm, Front Lounge

Anti-Racism Team

First Fridays, September 7, 6:30 pm

Film to be announced

Homecoming Sunday – Quilting Bee – Sunday, September 9

Join in the quilting bee with Jody Leight after Fellowship Hour. We will be working on a wedding quilt for Lisa Gluck and Austin Publicover who met at BJ's place, our men's shelter. If you know how to tie your shoes laces, you will be able to come and help finish the quilt.

Antiracistalliance.com Potluck

Friday, September 21, 6 pm, Gallery

UU Christian Fellowship

Third Tuesdays of the month, 7:30 pm

September 18, October 16, November 20, December 18

MNY-UUCF, a local chapter of the national UU Christian Fellowship (UUCF), is led by the Rev. Kelly Murphy Mason, a UU community minister and former Vice-President of the UUCF. The chapter meets the third Tuesday of every month at Community for fellowship and discussion, religious education, and spiritual deepening. All UUs in the District are invited to participate. The theme this year is Seeking the Soul of the Gospels.

Sipping & Searching

4th (usually) Wednesdays, September 22, 6:30 pm, Front Lounge

Rev. Dr. Anthony Johnson will facilitate this popular discussion group. Join us for pizza, soft drinks, beer and great conversation. September's topic: *Atonement – Reflections on Yom Kippur for Religious Liberals*

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2012 continued from page 14

Action for Justice's Resistance Cinema

Sundays, September 23, October 7, 21 at 1:15 pm

Film to be announced.

Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life

Resumes Monday, October 15, 7 pm

Join our book discussion group as we continue our study of *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life* by the noted religious historian, Karen Armstrong. Our facilitator will be Rev. Susan Karlson, Minister of Unitarian Church of Staten Island. RSVP to Esther Rosado at erosado@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext. 23.

Pipe Organ Rededication Concert/Reception

Sunday, September 23, 1 pm, Hall of Worship/Assembly Hall

Social Tea

Tuesday, September 25, 2 pm, Assembly Hall

A Visit to the Transylvanian Birthplace of Unitarianism — Leonore Tiefer, long time church member, visited Cluj, Romania, this past July and will show souvenirs and review the Transylvanian history of Unitarianism in the 16th century, Dr. Harrington's relationship with Transylvania, and the revival after 1989 of the UUA's partner church program. Join us for a guest speaker, light refreshments and conversation.

Green Sanctuary's Future Visions Film Series

Friday, September 28, 7 pm, Gallery

Film to be announced

Gallery35's Fall Art Show

Opening Reception — Saturday, September 29, 3 pm

See Page 11 for details!

• Reiki with Renee Morelli

2nd Thursdays, Sept 13 and Sept 27, 7-8:30 pm, Front Lounge

Come join Renee Joey Morelli, advanced Reiki Practitioner, for an evening discovering how to enhance your life with Reiki and Meditation. Reiki is a Japanese technique for stress reduction and relaxation that also promotes healing. Reiki treats the whole person including body, emotions, mind and spirit by balancing the life force energy that come from within. Learn how Reiki can be a simple, natural and safe method of spiritual healing and self-improvement that everyone can use.

• Gentle Yoga with Eberly — Start Date to be Announced Soon

Join us for an introduction to gentle yoga and chanting led by church member Eberly Mareci. Eberly takes a flexible, playful, whole-hearted, and intelligent approach to yoga, particularly attuned to the person and the moment.

Starting in October

Community Circles — Small group conversations

Humanism 101

4th Mondays — Starting in October

A new Study Group will be facilitated by John Rafferty of the Secular Humanist Society of New York.

Adult Religious Education Series on the World's Religions Led by the Rev. Orlanda Brugnola.

All sessions are on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8pm

Conference Room

This series will present a basic picture of each of nine World Religions, using video and other imaging, text, commentary, and sometimes art and music. Each session is largely independent of the others, but the experience will be much richer if you attend all sessions. This is especially true for the first three presentations on the Abrahamic faiths.

October 2 Judaism • November 6, Christianity • December 4, Islam
January 8, Hinduism • February 5, Buddhism • March 5, Taoism
April 9, Confucianism • May 7, Shinto • June 4, Shamanism

Buddhism as a Spiritual Practice

**All sessions are on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8pm, Chapel
Led by the Rev. Orlanda Brugnola. — First Session, October 16**

This series will begin with a non-traditional presentation of the core ideas of the tradition and move through an exploration different schools of Buddhist thought and practice, using some video, chanting and various types of meditation as well as particular texts. Nine sessions in all. While these sessions are not tied together exactly, the experience will be much richer if you attend all. Session one sets up the series. Contents of sessions 2-9 will be determined by how the previous session goes.

Psychology of Yoga

Thursdays, October 4, 11, 18 and 25, 6:30-8 pm

Dr. Marvin Levine, professor emeritus at Stony Brook University, will offer a series of nine lectures on the Psychology of Yoga. The Yogic interpretation of Hindu teachings will be presented and variations in modern schools of Yoga will be reviewed. Although the series will not feature extensive treatment of Yoga postures, a few simple postures will be performed with emphasis not on the body but on the inner practice. The central topic will be the Yogic prescriptions for how one relates to oneself, how one relates to others, and how one practices to achieve liberation. The role of deity in Yogic thought will also be discussed. Wherever appropriate, comparisons will be made with Buddhist and with modern Western views.

OTHER EVENTS AT COMMUNITY

Peoples Voice Café returns Saturday, September 15, 22, 29, 8 pm
www.peoplesvoicecafe.org

Events Calendar for September 2012

SATURDAY, SEPT. 1 10:45 First Saturday Feeding (off-site)	SUNDAY, SEPT. 9 ~ Home Coming ~ 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour Quilting Bee	SUNDAY, SEPT. 16 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 1:00 Bylaws Special Meeting	SUNDAY, SEPT. 23 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 1:15 Resistance Cinema	FRIDAY, SEPT. 28 6:30 Green Sanctuary Film Series
SUNDAY, SEPT. 2 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UN/GA Meeting 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir	MONDAY, SEPT. 10 7:00 Personnel Cmte.	TUESDAY, SEPT. 18 7:00 Streetsingers 7:30 UU Christian Fellowship	MONDAY, SEPT. 24 6:00 UU Ministers Meeting	SATURDAY, SEPT. 29 6:00 Gallery35 Opening Reception 8:00 People's Voice Café
MONDAY, SEPT. 3 Labor Day Holiday	TUESDAY, SEPT. 11 10:30 Guest House Meeting	WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19 6:00 Finance Cmte.	TUESDAY, SEPT. 25 2:00 Social Tea 7:00 Streetsingers	SUNDAY, SEPT. 30 12:15 Annual Activities and Committee Fair 1:15 Discussion with Dr. McKanan
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 5 6:00 Buildings & Grounds	WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 12 6:30 Church Council	FRIDAY, SEPT. 21 5:30 Antiracistalliance.com Potluck	WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 26 6:00 Board Meeting 6:30 Sipping & Searching	
THURSDAY, SEPT. 6 6:30 Secular Humanist Society Book Club	THURSDAY, SEPT. 13 7:00 Gallery35 Meeting 7:00 Reiki	SATURDAY, SEPT. 22 8:00 People's Voice Café	THURSDAY, SEPT. 27 6:00 Gallery35 Show 7:00 Reiki and Meditation	
FRIDAY, SEPT. 7 6:30 Antiracism Team Meeting	SATURDAY, SEPT. 15 8:00 People's Voice Café			

FOR MORE Adult Religious Education and Opportunities/Events see pages 14 & 15

*Special Bylaws Meeting ~ September 16
Annual Activities & Committee Fair
September 30*

Credits & Guidelines

Members are encouraged to submit articles to *Community Connections*. The submission deadline is typically the first Wednesday of the month prior to issue date. Submissions can be emailed to info@ccny.org or hand delivered to the Church. Articles submitted are subject to proofing and editing for clarity, brevity, grammar, punctuation, spelling and content.

Rev. Bruce Southworth, Senior Minister
Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education
Gerald A. Brown, Director of Music
Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator
Rev. Dr. Anthony P. Johnson, Affiliated Minister
Robert G. Martin, Business Administrator



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www.ccny.org
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ISSUE: FORTY NINE
Here At Community, Opportunities, Calendars and much more...
Deadline for October/November issue due September 5, 2012

COMMUNITY connections

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF NEW YORK
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Growing Souls, Doing Justice, and Being Bold in a Caring Community since 1825

Issue 50 • Oct./Nov. 2012

Homecoming Sunday

Here At Community

A Note from Your
Membership Coordinator
Members' Birthdays
From The Nominating
Committee
Remembering Leona Fayer
Organ Restoration Concert
Auction Update
Social Tea
Congratulations Daniel
Sanctuary Family
Member's Poetry
Members and Friends
Out and About

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Opportunities

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October Calendar
November Calendar
Credits & Guidelines

Page 11-12



Fellowship Hour



Quilting Bee

HERE AT COMMUNITY

A Note from Your Membership Coordinator

Hi Friends,
This year has been quite the adventure! Almost a year ago, I relocated to sunny and warm(!) Arizona. My husband



Nick and I decided it was time to live closer to children and grandchildren. It was right time to make that move. Nick and I have found a great UU church

right near our home too. I even had the opportunity to give a sermon there this summer which is on www.youtube.com now.

What a joy and blessing it has been to be invited to continue to serve as the Membership Coordinator at Community from a distance. I've been able to do much of the work via the web/internet and have been able to stay in touch with many members through email and phone calls. Fortunately, I've also been able to come back to NYC for several visits too. It is always so good to catch up in person. As we begin a new church year, I would like to go over some membership items now that we are back in the swing.

We are always trying to make our website better and more user-friendly. Now in the "For Members"/"Member Documents" section, in addition to Board Minutes/

Documents, we have added a "Member/Friend Directory"(a PDF updated monthly), a Leadership Contact List ("At Your E-Service") and the Church Calendar which is especially helpful for those planning meetings/classes or other gatherings. If you need to know if the Gallery is free on a given day, check the calendar first and then contact Robin Strong to make your arrangements. This section is available to all Voting Members of Community. If you have any trouble getting in, send me a quick email or call and let me know what log-on name and password you would like to use.

Are you receiving *Community News* and *Community Connections* in the desired format – postal mail and/or electronically?

continued on page 3

BIRTHDAYS

October 2012

- 2 Christie Jeffers
- 5 Jiajun Wu
- 9 Brigid Shorter-Cupolo
- 10 Shay Mutter
- 11 Rosalie Anderson
- 12 Joel Mandelbaum
Brian Santiago
Jacob Hudson Buron
- 14 Deborah Washburn
- 15 Julieta Caro
- 19 Doris Jeffrey
- 20 Kai Peter Garcia
- 23 Laura Breach
Polly Franchini
- 25 Mary Delisi
Laurence Reilly
- 26 Craige Moore Cioletti
- 27 Laura Ann Wilson
- 28 Eva Foreman
- 30 Ray Olive Clark

BIRTHDAYS

November 2012

- 1 Mary Gilliard
- 2 Annise Jean Bradley
- 5 Everette Ball
Ruth Miller
- 13 Maria Longas
John Yancey
- 14 Catherine Ross
- 15 Bruce Southworth
- 19 Odella Washington
- 22 Connie Moore
- 23 Jane DeTorrre
- 25 Andrew Daniele
Charlotte McPherson
Penelope Stothers
- 27 Edmund Dejowski
- 28 Martha Wagner

HERE AT COMMUNITY

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If not, let us know. Have you been receiving UUWORLD magazine from the UUA? All Voting Members are signed up to receive a subscription. I hear from time to time that some members are not receiving it – Please let me know. If the post office mis-delivers (not uncommon) and it is returned to the UUA, they automatically stop the subscription. I can get it started again – just let me know.

"Am I a Voting Member?" – A question several have, especially now that congregational meeting schedule is starting up again. Anyone who has signed the Membership Book (and after a 90 day

period) and has made a contribution by check or cash in an envelope with their name on it in the past year, will be eligible to vote at Congregational Meetings. (If you have not already done so, remember to make your pledge.) If you have any questions, please let me know.

I invite you to explore this year! There are so many great classes and programs starting this fall. At long last, Community Circles are beginning again – Laura Breach and Ruth Miller are facilitating. The Social Teas continue with great guest speakers, many from Community. Several members are offering classes such as Reiki with

Renee (Morelli) and Yoga with Eberly (Moreci). There are many ways to volunteer too – Hospitality on Sundays, the Shelter, New Sanctuary Task Force, Caring Network, are just a few of the opportunities. It is a great way to meet people and feel more connected. Also, please consider serving on the Board or Council. Contact a member of the Nominating Committee for more information.

I'm so glad you are part of Community Church. I give thanks to Bruce, our Senior Minister and to you, the Members and Friends of Community, for the opportunity to serve as your Membership Coordinator.

From The Nomination Committee

This is a great time for you to consider serving in a leadership role at Community Church! The Nominating Committee at Community is working on preparation of a slate of nominees for positions on the Board of Trustees (3 at-large plus the Clerk), the Church Council (2 Members-at-Large), and the Nominating Committee (4 Members-at-Large). The slate of nominees and any nominees by petition will be presented to the congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting in January and voted upon by voting members at this meeting.

We invite anyone with suggestions for nominees to contact a member of the committee or leave a message for us with the church office. If you are interested in a position and need more information about the responsibilities for each position, please do not hesitate to ask us for this. The qualifications for becoming a nominee include being a voting member, good leadership skills, good character, and sense of responsibility. The members of the committee are:

Doug Anderson
Michelle Asencio
Jonathan Birchall,
Janice Marie Johnson
George Marshal
Jack Seiferth
Helene Summa.

We hope to hear from you soon.

Expressive Stained Glass... Ways To Further Your Creativity

Ellen Mandelbaum — October 22-25, 2012, 8:30 am-12:30 pm

Explore ways the elements of stained glass can be expressive of a range of feelings from calm to intensity or anguish. This can be useful for representation as well as abstraction. The focus will be particularly on glass painting.



Ellen Mandelbaum – October Workshops The Stained Glass School, Inc.

by Ellen Mandelbaum

The Stained Glass School, Inc., is currently in the process of creating a physical school that will offer classroom and studio instruction for the formation of qualified craftpersons. This school is conveniently located in mid-America in Raytown, Missouri,

just outside of Kansas City. Featuring easy access from three Interstate Highways; multiple airports; ample, affordable lodging and dining; an abundance of local attractions; and much more, Kansas City has served as the home of the Stained Glass Association of America for more than a quarter century.

Land has been purchased and current classes are being held in a building on the property that has been reworked to provide proper space, equipment and amenities for stained glass classes while grant work is being conducted to raise funds for a permanent facility.

SGAA Headquarters, Raytown, MO.

After our success in June with on-site workshops, the Stained Glass School, Inc. is now ready to offer professional-level workshops on a regular basis.

Class fees will include materials, transportation to and from the airport, transportation to and from the Holiday Inn Express Hotel, lunch and evening hors d'oeuvres. There may be items that the instructors request you to bring such as sketches, designs and your favorite pencil and paint brush.

Our workshop hotel will be the Holiday Inn Express with a rate of \$89 per night including a very nice breakfast and free hi-speed internet.

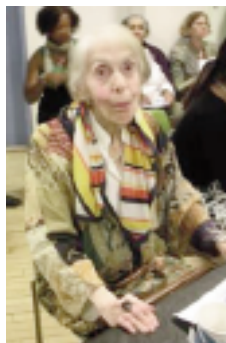
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Remembering Leona Feyer

by Stephanie Glickman

40 some years ago as a young social worker, I waltzed into the *Little Church Around the Corner*, a bit nervous, to meet the director of East Midtown Services for Older People. I was greeted warmly and enthusiastically by a tall, mature, and outgoing Leona Feyer who I soon realized, having her finger on the pulse of this community and knowing its needs and resources, would be able to guide me as I started my own fledgling service organization. That was the beginning of a professional collaboration and a long and meaningful friendship. She was, foremost, and proudly, a sincere and dedicated political progressive. She was strong in her beliefs and surrounded herself with like-minded close friends, some of whom had taken great risks during the Spanish Civil War and the McCarthy period. She stayed



connected to the Lincoln Brigade, and supported through letter writing, ongoing and consistent financial donations, and off the cuff conversations with whomever's ear she could capture, the causes she so passionately was committed to. She loved art, she loved to dance (and had been a dancer early in life), she loved to travel (and did often), she loved to meet new and different people, she kept life-long friends, and she loved to laugh. She was a consummate community organizer, and was proud to be so.

As president of East Midtown Community Council, she was instrumental in building Renwick Gardens housing for the elderly and disabled, and bringing together a host of service organizations, hospitals, churches and lay people to address the contemporary issues of de-institutionalization, J-51 abatements and homelessness, and health care. Leona, you helped to make this a better world. I will miss my friend.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

Organ Restoration Concert

by Joel Mandelbaum

The theme of the concert is the comparison of music sung to a text with the "same music"

performed by instruments without the text. I will be most interested in your reactions. How important is the text to the reception of the music? What are the various reasons why I, as a composer, use a song I had already composed as the basis for an instrumental piece? The reasons are different in each case. What are the compositional procedures used in the transcription? The procedures vary in each instance. { In one case, one instrument (a cello) performs the vocal part verbatim while the accompaniment is unchanged. In another, while the melodic and harmonic continuity is undisturbed, the vocal part is divided among the three instruments and becomes integrated into the overall musical texture. In still another, the song is merely the starting point – the supplier of themes for an instrumental composition that follows the ways of a traditional instrumental form.}

A few words about the concert in the Assembly Hall on Sunday October 14 at 1:30 pm for the benefit of the Organ Restoration Project.

In addition to exploring these juxtapositions of music with and without sung texts, we will present the auction winners of of the past... a reprise of

Brenda Carpenter's magnificent poem *Melee*, and the premiere of a setting of some lines from Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. (It is not clear at this writing whether the setting of W. Stevens requested at the most recent auction, but only indicated a month ago, will be ready for inclusion at this concert.)

Performers will include Philip and Nancy Hough from our congregation; Kathryn Wieckhorst, Gilad Paz and Blanca Gonzalez, all recent graduates of Queens College, and several others as well. Ivan and Elektra Birchall will recite a few of the poems. My music will be supplemented with a bit of Beethoven and of Verdi.



Admission is free. We want you present, whether or not you are prepared to donate. If you do choose to make a donation, it is suggested that you bring your checkbook, or use an offering envelope since all documented donations are tax deductible.

Auction Update

by Jonathan Birchall

First, a date for the diary – the Church Council has decided that next year's fundraising auction will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday May 11, which we hope will give everyone plenty of time to clear away all possible distractions for an event that this year once again managed to put the fun into fundraising.

The auction raised several thousand dollars this year, due to the generosity of our members in both offering their services and in bidding for the delights on offer. And once again, this year's event has provided opportunities for members of the congregation to get to know each other better. On a sweltering June 29, I was delighted to take the train with Mila, Elektra and Ivan to 139 Street in Manhattan for a Dominican family dinner that had been offered by Argenis Pierret and Stephen Jones at their apartment. The other happy bidders were in attendance too – Jil Novenski and her son Thorin, Doug Anderson and Julie with Rosie, Ruth Miller and Sheila. There were tasty Dominican dishes (kindly prepared by Argenis' mother) together with Dominican beer, and to drink the unique *Morir Soñando* (to die while dreaming), a mix of orange juice, milk and sugar that proved extremely popular with the children. We got to spend time with friends we already knew, including Dyani,



Viviana and Darion who took all the kids down to the playground and ran them into a state of sweaty exhaustion, as well as meeting Argenis' sister and other friends. In sum, it was a great evening that made us even better connected than we were before!

Hopefully other events will be taking place in the weeks ahead, such as the fall walk in Bear Mountain State Park offered by George Duckett's brother, more convivial dinners, and the events such as a tour of the Open Society Foundations HQ (that I have yet to organize myself).

And make another auction-related date in your diary for the afternoon of Sunday, October 14: there will be a concert that day in the Fellowship Hall of music by Joel Mandelbaum, including the world premiere performance of a song that my family commissioned at the auction last year (Caliban's speech "The Isle is Full of Noises" from *The Tempest* by Shakespeare), and another song commissioned at a previous auction by Brenda Carpenter.

We also invite everyone to take pictures of their auction related events, to post on the notice boards outside the Fellowship Hall where we hope to secure some space, and even on the Community Church Facebook page.

Social Tea and the Demystifying of Yoga

by Maureen Allen Holder



At Community Church's monthly Social Tea, on Tuesday, August 27, Eberly Mareci took us on a journey through various aspects of yoga including a introduction to the philosophy of yoga, meditation, breathing, chanting and gentle body movements. Eberly, a Yoga Alliance-certified teacher, began

practicing yoga at Rasa Yoga on the Upper West in 1992 and by 2002 began teaching yoga.

Eberly's interactive session began with a question: "What concept do you have of yoga?"

"It's intensive."

"It's a lot of OMs."

"It's about doing a lot of twists with your body."

"People sit in a lotus position and have a sense of peace and harmony."

Eberly noted that all the above incorporated yoga adding that:

- yoga should not be physically challenging;
- the practice of Yoga transforms us as we move into a state of stillness;
- according to the yoga sutras (Hindu teachings), yoga is a process to realize our equanimity, a method for being in the present, coming to know our inner being thereby having a better understanding of who we are.

Eberly explained that physical movement (positions a.k.a. asanas) is only one aspect of yoga. Good works, meditation, intentional breathing and chanting are other essential aspects of yoga. She noted that the yoga postures performed in our 20s need to be reconsidered as we matured, changing postures to accommodate our needs. Eberly emphasized that our physical body warehoused all facets of our lives. Everything we experience including what we eat, drank, feel, encounter, hear, touch, whether consciously recalled or not, is stored in the fibers of our senses.

She reported that breathing exercises are fundamental to the practice of yoga — enhancing our capacity to explore and investigate our body, enabling us to, both physically and emotionally, let go of toxins that have been stored within our body.

Following Eberly's informative introduction of yoga, she guided us through several breathing exercises, chants and gentle chair yoga. It was difficult to terminate our session as participants were eager to linger. Fortunately, Eberly will conduct yoga classes at Community Church October 7, 12:45 pm.



Congratulations and Farewell Daniel...



There were grand send-off celebrations for Daniel Gregoire at the end of August, with delicious cake and home-made scones. Daniel received a gift certificate as a token of gratitude from the congregation.

He started at Community several years ago as a Sunday School teacher and later facilitated our Young Adult events and offered several adult programs as our Student Minister. (Who could ever forget the "Building Your Own Theology" sessions!!) Most recently, Daniel served as our Summer Minister, preaching great sermons, leading thought provoking Vespers, visiting those who are home-bound, just to name a few! Daniel is now serving his internship at Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis, 333 Dubois Rd. Annapolis, MD 21401. We know he will be a great UU Minister! We wish you all the best, Daniel!

HERE AT COMMUNITY

Our Sanctuary Family: Fatoumata Gassama and her children

by Leonore Tiefer

This has been a summer of steps both forward and not-so-forward for our Sanctuary Family. Most exciting -- Fatoumata's four daughters were able to attend sleepaway summer activities as a result of the efforts of the Community Church Committee that works with the family (chaired by Leonore Tiefer, with Community Church members Ruth Miller, Diana Stewart, Shari Zuber, Laurie James, Christie Jeffers, Vera Lilly, and Judson Memorial Church member Marlyn Klee).

Fanta (age 16) went to the Smith College Summer Science and Engineering Program for the month of July, meeting other girls from all over the world and studying robotics and biology. Bintou (age 14) went to the YMCA camp in Huguenot, NY for 2 weeks, and enjoyed crafts and sports. Aminata (age 13) and Npenda (age 9) spent 3 weeks at Camp Betsey Cox in Vermont, where they got to ride horses, do woodworking and swim in a lake.

Organizing these adventures was complicated and took Fatoumata and the committee months of paperwork and networking. It was a triumph of teamwork.

At the last minute, Fatoumata's youngest, Abdou (age 8) and Mohammed (age 6) were able to enroll in a Bronx day camp because of the intervention of Janice Marie Johnson and Renee Morelli. Everything is more complicated than it should be, but Abdou and Mohammed had a great active 8 weeks summer.

The downside of the summer has been the frustrated and frustrating hunt for permanent housing for the family. Fatou and the children are living in a shelter in the East Bronx (their 4th in 3 years). Their only income is public assistance and food stamps, with bits

of help from our church and a cousin. Fatoumata works true miracles in making a home and keeping the kids healthy under extraordinary circumstances. While the kids are in school, she is attending a pre-GED program herself.

Fatoumata spent much of the summer chasing down leads to possible permanent housing that would accept public assistance funds as full rent. She applied to every agency she could find and chased down ads that were passed around by her caseworkers. She and Bintou attended a housing fair. Each instance is either pending or led directly to a brick wall. Many of the apartments are in buildings being renovated by private contractors with tax rebates or other government subsidies. They want proof of income, often \$55,000/yr for some reason, which is completely out of reach. So, the hunt goes on. Shelter residence is supposed to be temporary, and Fatoumata is understandably nervous about another sudden and traumatic transfer.

Meanwhile, all the kids are back in school -- Mohammed proudly in the 1st grade, Fanta a junior at Brooklyn Tech, Bintou's starting high school at A. Philip Randolph campus HS in Harlem and everyone inbetween. This year, in addition to the housing urgencies, the committee will be working on getting Aminata and Npenda into good middle schools.

We welcome new committee members ALL THE TIME. "Many hands make light the work." Fatoumata and the kids are wonderful, loving people whom we are happy to try and help.

Leonore Tiefer
ltiefer@mindspring.com
212-533-2774



Bintou, Abdou and Aminata at Karate
(arranged by Diana Stewart)



Leonore and Bintou at the Bronx
Botanical Gardens in August

HERE AT COMMUNITY

Now the poem is ready

What happened to my heart?
I had forgotten how to weep,
how to mourn.
Hundreds of thousands of Iraqis dead,
& only God knows how many wounded,
torn apart by cluster bombs.
Thousands of our own, too,
not to be forgotten.
Thousands of pairs of empty boots for our soldiers
& piles of civilian shoes of all sizes to mark
untold Iraqi lives lost in the war
traveling in an exhibit across our country.
This is, was, Real. Where are our tears?
Every day for years I have been sobbing in my heart
when I seemed to smile.
My country's leader, murdering in My name.
& Yours & Yours & Yours.
I read in the *Daily News*
that at the end of his presidency

George W. Bush had the nerve to speak in public in Iraq.
A reporter in the crowd
threw one size 10 Shoe, then the Other at him.
Small retribution for the murder of a nation.
This action was truly from the heart.
This action was emblematic.
This action was worthy of a poem.
Still I could not write it.
Today I saw the headlines in the *New Jersey Star Ledger*:
**MILLIONS OF IRAQIS SUFFER FROM MENTAL ILLNESS
& only one hospital.**
I was walking to the grocery store.
I stood still,
tears fell hot from my eyes.
Who from this country we have torn apart
would not be mentally ill?
& how could any of us in America be sane?
Now the poem is ready to be born
in shame.

by Karen Etheldattar

Members And Friends Out and About

Marvin Brown shares this photograph which was taken during a long visit to The Josef and Anni Albers Foundation in Bethany, CT. The image incorporates an architectural element against a framed nature reference. He also spent several weeks in Northern France this summer doing an architectural study. Marvin has had a career in teaching Visual Arts at various universities in New York City.



HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2012

Gallery35's Fall Art Show – "Murray Hill and Beyond"

September 29 – November 10

For the first time ever, Gallery35 made an artist call to the entire Murray Hill art community by inviting members of the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association and others living in the Murray Hill area to exhibit their art alongside our Gallery35 artists.

World Religions – Tuesdays, October 2, November 6, 6:30-8 pm Conference Room

This series will present a basic picture of each of nine World Religions, using video and other imaging, text, commentary, and sometimes art and music. Each session is largely independent of the others, but the experience will be much richer if you attend all sessions. This is especially true for the first three presentations on the Abrahamic faiths. The class will be led by Rev. Orlanda Brugnola.

Upcoming Sessions: October 2 Judaism • November 6, Christianity

- December 4, Islam January 8, Hinduism • February 5, Buddhism
- March 5, Taoism • April 9, Confucianism • May 7, Shinto
- June 4, Shamanism

Secular Humanist Society of New York – Book Club

Thursdays, 6:30 pm – Front Lounge

October 4, *The Rational Optimist: How Prosperity Evolves* by Matt Ridley

November 1 – *American Grace: How Religion Divides and Unites Us* by Robert D. Putnam and David E. Campbell

Antiracism Team – Fridays, October 5, November 2, 6:30 pm

Films to be announced

First Saturdays Feeding of the Hungry in the Bowery

Saturdays, October 6, November 3, 10:45 am

We invite you to help the Sai Baba Group feed the hungry on the First Saturday of each month. We meet on Forsyth, just south of Houston at 10:45 am. Please bring vegetarian food to share with the over 100 people who come. This is an outdoor event so dress for the weather. For more information contact Valerie Lynch at vlynch@ccny.org or 212-683-4988.

Yoga with Eberly – Sunday, October 7, 12:45 pm

Join us for an introduction to gentle yoga and chanting led by church member Eberly Mareci. Eberly takes a flexible, playful, whole-hearted, and intelligent approach to yoga, particularly attuned to the person and the moment. **The schedule for upcoming sessions will be decided at this class.** Please RSVP to Esther Rosado at erosado@ccny.org or 212-683-4988.

Action for Justice's Resistance Cinema

Sunday, October 7, at 1:15 pm, Gallery

We're Not Broke – Cuts in education, health care, social services are all justified by the claim that America is broke, but it's not true.

October 21, at 2:15 pm, Gallery – Note Special Start Time

Cultures Of Resistance Around the world people are discovering how art and creativity can be ammunition in the battle for peace and justice.

November 11, *Harvest Of Empire* – At a time of heated debate over immigration, we examine its connection to the long history of U.S. intervention in Latin America.

November 25, *Last Call At The Oasis* – Will the global water crisis be the central issue facing our world this century?

Reiki with Renee – 2nd and 4th Thursdays – October 11, 25

7-8:30 pm, Front Lounge

Come join Renee Joey Morelli, advanced Reiki Practitioner, for an evening discovering how to enhance your life with Reiki and Meditation. Reiki is a Japanese technique for stress reduction and relaxation that also promotes healing. Reiki treats the whole person including body, emotions, mind and spirit by balancing the life force energy that come from within. Learn how Reiki can be a simple, natural and safe method of spiritual healing and self-improvement that everyone can use.

Psychology of Yoga: Hinduism – Thursdays, October 4, 11, 18, 25 7 pm (weekly through October)

Dr. Marvin Levine, professor emeritus at Stony Brook University, will offer a series of nine lectures on the Psychology of Yoga. The Yogic interpretation of Hindu teachings will be presented and variations in modern schools of Yoga will be reviewed. Although the series will not feature extensive treatment of Yoga postures, a few simple postures will be performed with emphasis not on the body but on the inner practice. The central topic will be the Yogic prescriptions for how one relates to oneself, how one relates to others, and how one practices to achieve liberation. The role of deity in Yogic thought will also be discussed. Wherever appropriate, comparisons will be made with Buddhist and with modern Western views.

Community Circle – Begins Sunday, October 14, 12:30 pm

Participants will get to know one another on a deep level through conversation and listening. If you would like to explore with us, please contact the facilitators Laura Breach laurabreach@gmail.com or Ruth Miler council@ccny.org or Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator, at 212-683-4988, ext. 19 or vlynch@ccny.org

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2012 continued

Action for Justice Forum – Sunday, October 14, 1 pm

Details to be announced.

Organ Restoration Project Concert – Sunday, October 14, 2 pm

Joel Mandelbaum will perform along with Nancy and Philip Hough and others for the benefit of the Organ Restoration Project. Please bring a donation for the Organ Fund.

***Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life* Resumes**

Mondays, October 15, November 19, 7 pm

Join our book discussion group as we continue our study of *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life* by the noted religious historian, Karen Armstrong. Our facilitator will be Rev. Susan Karlson, Minister of Unitarian Church of Staten Island. RSVP to Esther Rosado at erosado@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext. 23.

Buddhism as a Spiritual Practice – Tuesdays

October 16, November 20, 6:30-8 pm, Chapel

This series will begin with a non-traditional presentation of the core ideas of the tradition and move through an exploration different schools of Buddhist thought and practice, using some video, chanting and various types of meditation as well as particular texts. Nine sessions in all. While these sessions are not tied together exactly, the experience will be much richer if you attend all. Session one sets up the series. Contents of sessions 2-9 will be determined by how the previous session goes. Led by Rev. Orlanda Brugnola.

UU Christian Fellowship – Third Tuesdays of the month

October 16 – November 20, 7:30-9 pm

MNY-UUCF, a local chapter of the national UU Christian Fellowship (UUCF), is led by the Rev. Kelly Murphy Mason, a UU community minister and former Vice-President of the UUCF. The chapter meets the third Tuesday of every month at Community for fellowship and discussion, religious education, and spiritual deepening. All UUs in the District are invited to participate. The theme this year is Seeking the Soul of the Gospels.

United Nations & Global Affairs Committee Forum and Luncheon Sunday, October 21, 12:45 pm

UN Health Care Outcomes in Latin America and East Africa – The UN & Global Affairs Committee cordially invites you to a UN Sunday Luncheon (\$7) and Program (12:30-2:30 pm, Assembly Hall) in celebration of the United Nations' 67th Anniversary. An exciting array of speakers include Dr. Cliff DuRand of Mexico (whose newest book will be available on sale at this event) and Prof. Naima Mohamed of CNR. Videography will be provided by Orlando McAllister. All are welcome to participate and join in the discussion.

Humanism 101 – 4th Mondays – Starting in October 22, 6 pm

A new Study Group will be facilitated by John Rafferty of the Secular Humanist Society of New York.

Sipping & Searching – 4th (usually) Wednesdays, October 24, November 28, 6:30 pm, Front Lounge

Rev. Dr. Anthony Johnson will facilitate this popular discussion group. Join us for pizza, soft drinks, beer and great conversation..

Green Sanctuary's Future Visions Film Series –

Fridays, October 26, November 30, 7 pm.

Films to be announced soon.

Community Women

October 28 – Eve Ensler's Film – "*What I Want My Words To Do To You*" An Unprecedented Look Into the Hearts and Minds of Women in a Maximum Security Prison, and Discussion.

November 9-11 – UU Women's Association Annual Weekend Renewal at St. Josephat Retreat House, Glen Cove. Theme: *Memoirs*, led by Ros Will and "Dinner Party" Crafts a la Judy Chicago, led by Reena Kondo

Social Tea – Last Tuesdays of the month, 2 pm

October 30 – Dr. Marvin Levine, who leads the class on Buddhism and Yoga.

November 27 – Eiko Kato, Community member Eiko Kato will offer a talk about the invention of phonetic symbols in the Japanese language – "Kana."

OTHER EVENTS AT COMMUNITY

Peoples Voice Café – Saturday, October 7, 13, 20, 27, November 3, 10, 17, 24, 8 pm

www.peoplesvoicecafe.org

Antiracistalliance.com Potluck – Fridays, October 19 November 15, 5:30 pm

Esperanto Society of NY – Fridays, October 19 November 15, 7 pm

Events Calendar for October 2012

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2 6:30 World Religions 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3 6:00 Buildings & Grounds THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4 6:30 Secular Humanist Society Book Club 7:00 Psychology of Yoga – Hinduism FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5 6:30 Antiracism Team SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6 10:45 First Saturday Feeding 8:00 Peoples' Café SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UN Global Affairs 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal 12:45 Yoga with Eberly 1:15 Resistance Cinema	MONDAY, OCTOBER 8 Holiday, Church Office Closed TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10 6:00 Church Council THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11 7:00 Psychology of Yoga – Hinduism 7:00 Reiki & Meditation SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13 8:00 Peoples' Café SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Community Circle 1:00 AFJ Forum 1:30 Organ Restoration Concert	MONDAY, OCTOBER 15 7:00 12 Steps to a Compassionate Life TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16 7:00 Buddhism as a Spiritual Practice 7:00 Streetsingers 7:30 UU Christian Fellowship WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17 6:00 Finance Committee THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18 7:00 Psychology of Yoga – Hinduism FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19 5:30 Antiracistalliance.com Potluck 7:00 Esperanto Society SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20 8:00 People's Voice Café	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:00 UN/Global Affairs 12:15 Fellowship Hour 2:15 Resistance Cinema MONDAY, OCTOBER 22 6:00 Introduction to Humanism 101 6:30 NYC UU Ministers TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24 6:00 Board of Trustees 6:30 Sipping & Searching THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25 7:00 Psychology of Yoga – Hinduism 7:00 Reiki & Meditation FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26 6:30 Green Sanctuary Film Series	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:30 Halloween Party 12:45 Yoga with Eberly 1:00 Community Women TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30 2:00 Social Tea 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31 Happy Halloween 
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BJ's Place needs your help

by Lisa Gluck

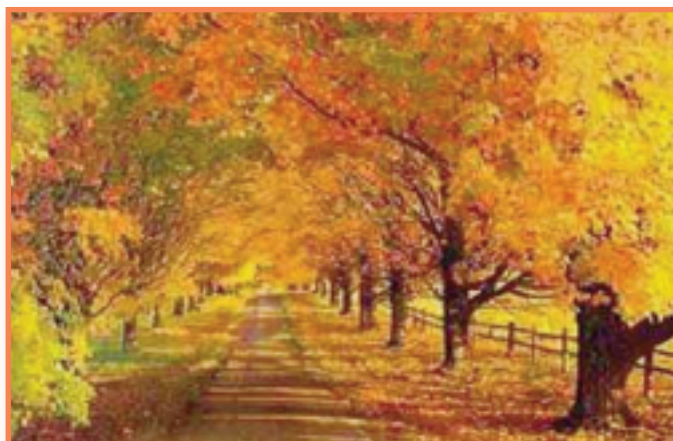
The state government in Albany voted to end funding for food to the Partnership for the Homeless, and consequently, BJ's Place has lost our \$10,000/year budget that we used to provide sandwiches, snacks and breakfast cereal to our guests. We are asking members of the congregation to donate either food, or funds to purchase food, on the Second Sunday of each month, to help us offer hospitality to our homeless guests. The items needed are simple staples, such as bread, butter, peanut butter, cheese, juice, milk and cereal. Please contact Lisa Gluck if you would like to donate. (917) 887-4212.

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO COMMUNITY CHURCH
WITH BJ's PLACE IN THE MEMO LINE**

**FOR MORE Adult Religious Education and
Opportunities/Events October & November
see pages 9 & 10**

Credits & Guidelines

Members are encouraged to submit articles to *Community Connections*. The submission deadline is typically the first Wednesday of the month prior to issue date. Submissions can be emailed to info@ccny.org or hand delivered to the Church. Articles submitted are subject to proofing and editing for clarity, brevity, grammar, punctuation, spelling and content.



Events Calendar for November 2012

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1

6:30 Secular Humanist
Society Book Club
7:00 Psychology of Yoga –
Hinduism

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2

6:30 Antiracism Team

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3

10:45 First Saturday Feeding
8:00 Peoples' Café

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

9:30 Choir Rehearsal
9:45 UN Global Affairs
11:00 Morning Worship
11:00 Sunday School
12:15 Fellowship Hour
12:45 Volunteer Choir
1:00 Action For Justice Forum
1:00 UN Global Affairs Presentation

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6 Election Day

6:30 World Religions
7:00 Streetsingers

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

6:00 Buildings & Grounds

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8

7:00 Psychology of Yoga –
Hinduism
7:00 Reiki & Meditation
7:00 Gallery35 Meeting

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9

1:00 Community Women Retreat)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10

1:00 Community Women (Retreat)
4:00 Gallery35 Fall Art Show
8:00 People's Voice Café

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

9:30 Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Morning Worship
11:00 Sunday School
12:15 Fellowship Hour
12:45 Volunteer Choir
12:45 Community Circle
1:00 Community Women
1:15 Resistance Cinema

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

7:00 Streetsingers

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

6:00 Church Council

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15

7:00 Psychology of Yoga –
Hinduism
5:30 Antiracistalliance.com
Potluck

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16

5:30 Esperanto Society

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17

4:00 Gallery35 Opening Reception
8:00 People's Voice Café

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18

9:30 Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Morning Worship
11:00 Sunday School
12:15 Fellowship Hour
12:45 **Congregational
Quarterly Meeting**

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19

7:00 12 Steps to a
Compassionate Life

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

7:00 Buddhism as a
Spiritual Practice
7:00 Streetsingers
7:30 UU Christian Fellowship

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Church Office Closed



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23
Church Office Closed

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24

8:00 People's Voice Café

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25

9:30 Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Morning Worship
11:00 Sunday School
12:15 Fellowship Hour
12:45 Volunteer Choir
12:45 Yoga with Eberly
1:15 Resistance Cinema

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26

6:00 Introduction to
Humanism 101
6:30 NYC UU Ministers

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

2:00 Social Tea
7:00 Streetsingers

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

6:00 Board of Trustees
6:30 Sipping & Searching

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29

7:00 Psychology of Yoga –
Hinduism

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30

6:30 Green Sanctuary Film Series

SAVE THE DATE

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ~ NOVEMBER 18, 2012
at 12:45 pm IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL

Rev. Bruce Southworth, Senior Minister
Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education
Gerald A. Brown, Director of Music
Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator
Rev. Dr. Anthony P. Johnson, Affiliated Minister
Robert G. Martin, Business Administrator



The Community Church of New York
Unitarian Universalist
40 East 35th Street
New York, N.Y. 10016
www.ccny.org
Tel: 212.683.4988

ISSUE: FORTY THREE

**Our Community, Here At Community, Opportunities, Calendars
and much more...**

Deadline for December/January issue due November 7, 2012

COMMUNITY connections

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF NEW YORK
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Issue 51 • Dec./Jan. 2013

Growing Souls, Doing Justice, and Being Bold in a Caring Community since 1825

Here At Community

A Special Sunday with
Rev. Dr. Mark Morrison-Reed
New Members
Members' Birthdays
Happy Birthday Bruce
Annual Halloween Party
& UNICEF Donations
Religious Education
Annual Holiday Party
Quarterly Congregational
Meeting
Visit by Dr. Daniel McKanan
Joel Mandelbaum Concert
Member's Poetry
A Family's Dedication
to Education
BJ's Place
Volunteer Clean-up
Humanism 101 – Invitation
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First Meeting of
Community Circle
Gallery35 ~ Small Works
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Opportunities

Special Opportunity with
Rev. Dr. Mark Morrison-Reed
and more
Fund For Holiday Greens
Pages 8-10

Back Page

December Calendar
January Calendar
Credits & Guidelines
Page 11-12

Holiday Crafts Fair



The Community Church of NY
Unitarian Universalist

40 East 35th St (between Park & Mad.) • NYC

December 2nd, 2012 – 12:15-4:00 p.m.

Original gift & food items created by Artisan members
and friends of Community Church of New York
We look forward to seeing you there!

Christmas Eve at Community

Candle-Lighting Service

December 24th 4:30 p.m.

A service of readings, music
and carols concluding with a
candle-lighting ceremony.

Hot cider and cookies
will follow the service.



This
year we
again offer
the Christmas
portion (and Halleluiah
Chorus) of Händel's "Messiah."

The choir of approximately sixty members
will include members of the church,
as well as singers from the larger
community.
The service
will
begin at
7:30 p.m.

Kwanzaa



December 30, we celebrate
the familial and cultural
wisdom and values from the
African tradition.

Christmas Day Dinner

Ticket Required
See page 10

CHRISTMAS DINNER	
December 25th – 12:30 noon.	
* * * * *	
Adults –	\$20.00
Age 12 and under	\$7.00
Ticket No. _____	

HERE AT COMMUNITY

A Special Sunday with Rev. Dr. Mark Morrison-Reed ~ December 9



The Rev. Dr. Mark Morrison-Reed

It is an honor to have the Rev. Dr. Mark Morrison-Reed with us Sunday December 9, and this weekend for a variety of programs. He is a distinguished UU Minister, author, scholar and lecturer, as well as serving as an affiliate faculty member at our Chicago UU seminary: Meadville Lombard Theological School.

A Chicago native, for 26 years he and his wife Donna Morrison-Reed served as co-ministers of UU congregations first in Rochester, NY and then Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Rev. Dr. Morrison-Reed's books will be on sale during Fellowship Hour at the Bookstall.

About his sermon, he writes, "Although she died over 50 years ago, in my heart I spend every Christmas at my great grandmother's home in Washington D.C. Journey with me as I seek out the bittersweet spirit of the season with all its gaiety and gifts, losses and love."

- Book Reading, December 7, 7 pm
- Workshop on UU Diversity, December 8, 1 pm
- Worship & Forum, December 9, 1pm

See *Opportunities* page 8 for further information.

New Members

Brenda Barajas • Stefanie Barro • Jiehong Bobrick
Gil Corby • Joshua Douglass • Asfaha Hadera
Christie Jeffers • Matt Koch

BIRTHDAYS December 2012

- | | |
|----|-----------------------|
| 1 | Gary Geoghegan |
| 2 | Kenneth Kern |
| 6 | Ginger Ruckles-Brooks |
| 7 | Joseph Wagner |
| 8 | L. Oriana Linares |
| 10 | Sondra Brooks |
| | Vernon Jacob |
| 12 | Madeleyn Kern |
| | Justin Vranek |
| 13 | Harry Xanthakos |
| 14 | J. Andrea McMahon |
| 17 | Mark Siebers |
| 18 | Vera Lilly |
| 20 | Daniel McNatt |
| 21 | Sally Asiedu |
| 24 | Rebecca Ann |
| | Jakobsen Randall |
| | Lois Ross |
| 26 | Dorothy Moore |
| 29 | Tina Redick |
| | Patricia Garbarini |

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Bruce

November celebration
during Fellowship Hour

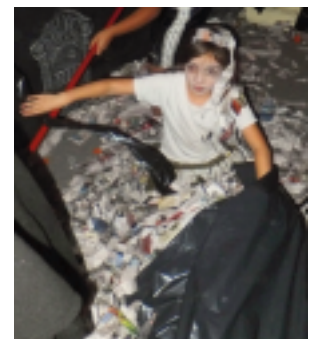
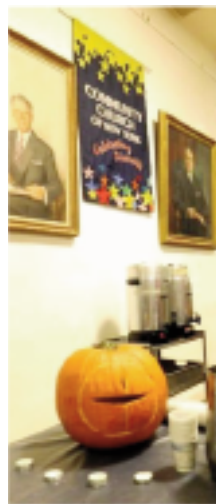


BIRTHDAYS January 2013

- | | |
|----|--------------------|
| 4 | Louis Schwebius |
| 8 | Douglas Anderson |
| 12 | Anna-Lisa Hafgren |
| | Lucille McEwen |
| 13 | George Rainer |
| | Heidi Siegfried |
| 15 | Juanita Ambrose |
| 16 | George Duckett |
| | Jova Vargas |
| 18 | Linda Novenski |
| 19 | Elektra Birchall |
| 20 | Harry French |
| 24 | Jo Ann Corkran |
| | Naajia Hurd |
| | Nancy Soloway |
| | Sheila Kaminsky |
| 27 | Carolynn Julien |
| | Marian Glassman |
| | Denise Romano |
| 28 | Khalilah Arrington |
| 29 | Corinne Padavano |
| 30 | Victor Bertini |

HERE AT COMMUNITY

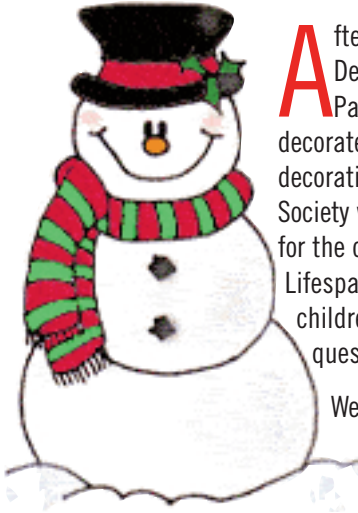
Annual Halloween Party & UNICEF Donations



HERE AT COMMUNITY



Religious Education Annual Holiday Party



After the 11 am Worship Service on Sunday, December 16, we will hold our annual Holiday Party in the Assembly Hall. The children will have decorated the tree with their hand-made decorations. The families of the Secular Humanist Society will be joining us and offering some activities for the children. (Contact Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education to confirm how many children will be attending and if you have any questions.)

We are delighted that the families of the Secular Humanist Society of New York will be joining us

this year. We look forward to sharing our holiday tradition with them. As you may know, their book club meets here and Humanism 101 is a new offering this fall, opened to all. They have also established a Humanist Library at Community Church.

We will serve light lunch and refreshments. Please bring your favorite family treat to share. As in years past, Santa will be of course joining us.

We look forward to seeing you.
Paz, Esther



QUARTERLY CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, January 27, 12:45 pm

Plan to attend our Quarterly Congregational Meeting. All members who joined prior to October 26, 2012, and have made a "financial contribution of record" are eligible to vote.

Please contact Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator, if you have any questions.

Visit by Dr. Daniel McKanan

Michael Orzechowski

“*Religion and the American Radical Tradition*” is the subtitle of Dr.

McKanan’s book, *Prophetic Encounters*, and was the theme of his talk during the September 30 service and the Q&A session afterwards. A historian of Religion at Harvard, holding the Emerson Chair, Dr. McKanan’s goal is captured in the opening



sentence of his book: “Everyone needs a history, especially those who seek to change the future.” Youthful, energetic, he took us through some of the highlights of the encounters between religion in America and radicalism, from William Lloyd Garrison and abolition to Occupy Wall Street. Dr. McKanan made the case that religion, where it exercised its prophetic role, played a part in nurturing and spreading radical reform in the United States.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

Our Joel Mandelbaum Concert

by Mary Orován

There aren't enough adjectives to describe how superb Joel Mandelbaum's concert for the Organ Restoration Fund was last October 14.

Everything and everyone was splendid. First to Mandelbaum's music. One piece was more beautiful, original than the other. My own favorite was the instrumental for cello and piano inspired by his opera the *Dybbuk*. But then, it's hard to choose, as it was such a varied program: poems set to music (more about that later), an aria from his opera, a song composed from a scene in Shakespeare's *Tempest*, and to complete the delicious sandwich, Verdi's *Sempre Libera* from *La Traviata*. Oh, did I mention, Beethoven was the first part of the "sandwich": the *Benedictus* from the *Missa Solemnis*, arranged for violin and piano by Mandelbaum.

The center piece for the concert perhaps was the *In Deep Woods* cycle, motivated by some Robert Frost poems. It fit Joel's

theme of the concert, both instrumental and voice pieces inspired by words, often juxtaposed with each other. As a birder, I particularly loved the instrumental interpretations in *Bird Song*. And then came the children to recite the actual Frost poems. Electra Birchall did the first, followed by her brother, Ivan — spirited, accurate, even theatrical performances — recited from memory! Brava, Bravo Birchalls. Thank you too to the senior Birchalls for commissioning Joel's premiere, the song, *The Isle Is Full of Noises* from *The Tempest*.

Brenda Carpenter's fine poem, *Melee*, gets better every time I hear it (the supreme complement for poetry). It's a lovely, yet serious, multi-layered work, again set to Joel's wave-like music.

Now to the performers. Mandelbaum, a just recently-retired Queens college professor of music, assembled a gifted, polished group. The virtuoso performance of violinist Blanca Gonzalez is still memorable for me, and Benjamin Larson on cello was excellent.

The vocalists were Gilad Paz, tenor, and Kathryn Wieckhortz, soprano, both talented,

expressive, rich voices which gave the arias and poems a magnificent rendering, including the closing delightful Verdi duet with Mr. Paz singing from off-stage.

Our own professionals, Nancy and Phil Hough performed other Mandelbaum pieces, with Joel on the piano, as he was for most of the afternoon.

But the concert belonged to composer Joel Mandelbaum, as we went on a rich, melodic journey with him.

If I have forgotten any names, made any errors in spelling, or in the complex citations, forgive me, as I was swept away along with the rest of the audience. For the concert was for all of us at Community Church (I hope we made good money for the organ fund), and for Joel's friends and colleagues. Everyone one was uplifted and smiling.

Happy birthday, Joel, and may you have many more years of fine composing for us, and for posterity.

Member's Poetry

Earth Is Shutting Down

Earth is shutting down.
Trees, their dark leafless skeletons reaching toward heaven,
Silhouette against the blue-grey, brooding sky.
Squirrels, white winter fur behind their ears,
Acorns safely hidden away,
Nestle in their burrows.

Frozen fingers of frost have covered the brittle landscape
With a blue-white glaucous glaze.
Monarchs, songbirds, hawks and eagles

Have migrated South.
We watched them float over the city,
Regret and joy written deep in our hearts.

Persephone, forced to go back to Hades,
Will not return until the Spring.
Demeter, her mother, grief-stricken and in a fury,
Has striped the land bare of its vegetation.

Ruth Miller
November 22, 2002

HERE AT COMMUNITY

A Family's Dedication to Education

by Christie Jeffers

Many of us at Community Church have followed Fatoumata Gassama and her six children as they face the challenges of life without their husband and father, who was deported back to Senegal in 2007, after 12 years hard work building a comfortable life in New York City for his wife and six American-born children.

But perhaps we are not aware of just how deep and determined is this family's commitment to education.

Each morning at 5:30, Fatoumata wakes the children for the trek from their Bronx public shelter to the various schools they attend around the City. Fanta, the eldest, is now a junior at elite Brooklyn Technical High School, which she entered with a score of 98% on the City-wide high school placement exam. She is pursuing a major in Brooklyn Tech's highly selective robotics program. This summer, Fanta spent a month in the Smith College Engineering and Medicine program for gifted teenage girls, where she studied robotics engineering and environmental biodiversity. To support her participation in the Smith program, Fanta won a \$5,000 scholarship from the Girls Action Network.

But precocious academic ability did not stop with Fanta. Bintou, 15, has just begun the pre-engineering program at A. Philip Randolph High School on the CUNY campus, with opportunities for

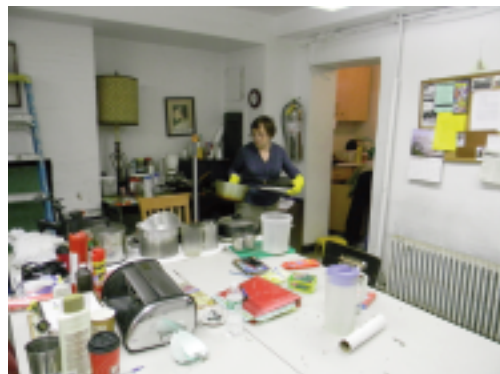
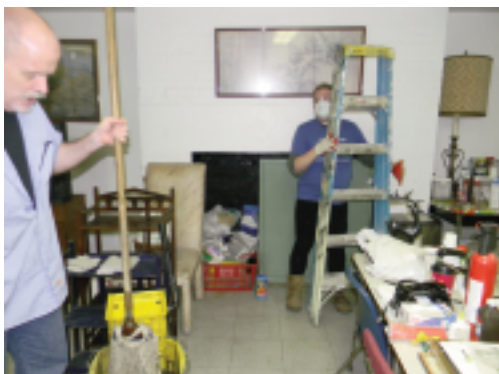
advanced placement and college credit courses. Not to be outdone, Aminata, 13, in the 8th grade, attends a prep course for the high school entrance exam every day after completing her regular class-work.

Fanta, who taught each of her younger siblings their alphabet and numbers before they started kindergarten, reports that Npenda learned to read at the age of three. Now 8, Npenda was chosen by her third-grade teacher to be the first in her class to read the Harry Potter novels and is never to be seen without a book. Abdou, 7, continues the family tradition by excelling in his classes, and even little Mohammed, just starting elementary school, was commended by his teacher for being the first in his class to write a complete sentence!

Now that all her children are in school, mom Fatoumata is herself a full-time student at the Mid-Manhattan Learning Center. Last spring, she passed her pre-GED course with a 94% score and this year continues the GED program, adding afternoon computer classes. She says her kids had been urging her to "get some skills, so you can take care of yourself." But she needed no prompting. Although she had only two years of formal school in Senegal, she relates, "I loved it. I was top in my class, but my father died when I was 11, and my mother had to go to work, so I stayed home to care for the younger children."

We at Community Church can be very proud of the support we have given to this extraordinary and determined family.

Volunteer Clean-up at BJ's Place, our Men's Shelter. Many Thanks



HERE AT COMMUNITY

Humanism 101 – Invitation

by John Rafferty

Humanism 101 is a new humanist study group being held at Community Church. There will be six sessions.

The purpose of Humanism 101 is to offer a humanist education program for the membership and friends of Secular Humanist Society of NY, for our friends at the Community Church of New York, and for the larger New York City freethought community. It is open to all who are interested in studying humanist history, philosophy, ethics, ideas, and ideals.

The program is a course of study, led (not lectured) by me – based on the three-year course I am currently completing at the Humanist

Institute – in what I hope will be stimulating Socratic dialog based on readings done *by you* prior to each session.

While each session is open (and free) to anyone, discussions will be limited to those who have read the materials assigned. If you haven't done the reading, you are welcome to audit the evening – and then, I hope, do the reading for next month.

Each meeting focuses on one book-length assigned text (an optional second for the motivated), and on short online materials in preparation for the discussions. As we proceed, of course, you may suggest additional reading.

I hope to see you at our next meeting on January 28. Just show up at Community, Church's Rear Lounge books and/or notes in hand, ready to go to work.

Green Sanctuary

Transpacific Panamerican Partnership Discussion



First Meeting of Community Circle



Small Works



Small Works Show and Sales

Reception & Art Salon

Saturday, December 15, 4-7pm

Gallery35 is planning our traditional Small Works show with some new twists: an Art Salon where on request various artists might share their vision – and a table with gift items created by our artists.

This is the perfect place for your holiday shopping!

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2012-2013

First Saturday Feeding of the Hungry in the Bowery

Saturday, December 1, 10:45 am, and January 5

We invite you to help the Sai Baba Group feed the hungry on the First Saturday of each month. We meet on Forsyth, just south of Houston at 10:45 am. Please bring vegetarian food to share with the over 100 people who come. This is an outdoor event so dress for the weather. For more information contact Valerie Lynch at vlynch@ccny.org or 212-683-4988, ext. 19.

Conflict Transformation and Effective Communication

SkillsSaturday, December 1, 1-5 pm, Assembly Hall

Open To All Members — Facilitated by consultant Margaret Keyser

Annual Holiday Crafts Fair — Sunday, December 2, 12:15-4 pm

A festive Fellowship Hour featuring food, fun, and fabulous crafts and gifts made by artisan members and friends of Community Church.



Radical Crocheting with

Dawn Stewart-Lookkin

Tuesday, December 4, 3-7 pm, Gallery

Learn beginner DIY radical crocheting with Dawn & donate warm creations to Occupy Sandy. All supplies provided, however, feel free to bring your own. All levels welcome.

World Religions — Tuesday, December 4, 6:30-8 pm

Conference Room

This series will present a basic picture of each of nine World Religions, using video and other imaging, text, commentary, and sometimes art and music. Each session is largely independent of the others, but the experience will be much richer if you attend all sessions. This is especially true for the first three presentations on the Abrahamic faiths. This month: Islam. The class will be led by Rev. Orlanda Brugnola. (No meeting in January.)

Secular Humanist Society of New York Book Club

Thursday, December 6, 6:30 pm, Front Lounge

American Grace: How Religion Divides Us and Unites Us
by Robert D. Putnam and David E. Campbell

Yoga Interpretations and Hindu Teachings

Thursday, December 13, 7 pm, Rear Lounge

Dr. Marvin Levine, professor emeritus at Stony Brook University, will offer a series lectures on the Psychology of Yoga. The Yogic interpretation of Hindu teachings will be presented and variations in modern schools of Yoga will be reviewed. Although the series will not feature extensive treatment of Yoga postures, a few simple

A WEEKEND WITH THE REV. DR. MARK MORRISON-REED



Book Reading with Rev. Dr. Mark Morrison-Reed

Friday, December 7, 7 pm

Anti-Racism Team Monthly Meeting, 6:30 pm

There are many more African-American UUs than you know about. Find out who they were. Learn about: "What is it like to grow up an African-American UU?" And explore the question: "Why does UUism find becoming more diverse such a struggle?"

Hear Mark Morrison-Reed introduce the new meditation manual *Voices from the Margins*, explore the history book *Darkening the Doorways Black Trailblazers and Missed Opportunities in Unitarian Universalism* and read excerpts from his book *In Between: Memoir of an Integration Baby*.

"Torn Between Fuzzy Aspirations and Hard Realities: The Perversity of Embracing Diversity"

Rev. Dr. Mark Morrison-Reed

Saturday, December 8, 1 pm, Chapel

There is a surprising, and painful, truth behind Unitarian Universalist efforts to become more racially and culturally diverse. This truth must begin with taking an honest look at who we are and why we are who we are, and it ends in a conundrum but not without hope.

If UUs really want to change, accepting the truth is the only place to start. Torn between our reality and our aspirations what are we to do?

This presentation begins by considering why achieving diversity is challenging, but moves on to talk about which congregations became successfully diverse and how.

"Selma and the Role of Unitarian Universalists"

Sunday, December 9, 2012 — Forum 1 pm, Assembly Hall

Rev. Dr. Mark Morrison-Reed

Dr. Morrison-Reed's doctoral thesis *Black Pioneers in a White Denomination* was published in 1984 and is still in print and required reading for everyone preparing for the UU ministry.

He is also the author of *Darkening the Doorways: Black Trailblazers and Missed Opportunities in Unitarian Universalism* and *In Between: Memoir of an Integration Baby*, as well as editor of a new meditation manual, *Voices from the Margins*.

Among his current projects, he is working with Meadville Lombard Theological School to organize and build the library's archive of materials relating to African American involvement in Universalism, Unitarianism and Unitarian Universalism.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2012-2013 continued

Yoga Interpretations and Hindu Teachings (continued from p. 8)
postures will be performed with emphasis not on the body but on the inner practice. The central topic will be the Yogic prescriptions for how one relates to oneself, how one relates to others, and how one practices to achieve liberation. The role of deity in Yogic thought will also be discussed. Wherever appropriate, comparisons will be made with Buddhist and with modern Western views

The Mask Workshop – Transforming Grief through Creativity
Saturday, December 8, 9:30 am-12 pm, Gallery

In this workshop participants are invited to personalize masks by using paint, beads, glitter, feathers and a bounty of other colorful materials to access buried thoughts and feelings. This movement to an inner place often leads to the exploration of personal issues at a much deeper level and inquire into how we cope. No artistic talent required, really! For Community Members/Friends: \$20
Click here for Flyer.

Messiah Choir Rehearsals – Most Saturdays/Sundays
12:45-2 pm

Would you like to be part of Community's Annual Tradition – the Christmas Eve Handel's Messiah performance? If you are interested, please contact Jerry Brown, our Director of Music – email jbrown@ccny.org or call 212-683-4988, ext 33. The deadline to join the choir is Friday, December 14.

Community Circle – Sunday, December 9, and January 13,
12:45 pm, Chapel

Participants will get to know one another on a deep level through conversation and listening. If you would like to explore with us, please contact the facilitators Laura Breach laurabreach@gmail.com or Ruth Miler council@ccny.org or Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator, at 212-683-4988, ext. 19 or vlynch@ccny.org.

Reiki and Meditation – Thursday, December 6, 20 and
January 10, 24, 7 pm, Chapel

Come join Renee Joey Morelli, advanced Reiki Practitioner, for an evening discovering how to enhance your life with Reiki and Meditation. Reiki is a Japanese technique for stress reduction and relaxation that also promotes healing. Reiki treats the whole person including body, emotions, mind and spirit by balancing the life force energy that come from within. Learn how Reiki can be a simple, natural and safe method of spiritual healing and self-improvement that everyone can use..

Green Sanctuary – Future Visions Friday, December 14, 7 pm
and Thursday, January 17, 6:30 pm

Program to be announced.

Gallery35 SMALLWORKS Art Salon

Saturday, December 15, 4-7 pm, Gallery

Gallery35 is planning our traditional Small Works show with some new twists: an Art Salon where on request various artists might share their vision – and a table with gift items created by our artists.

Community Holiday Party – Sunday, December 16, 12:15-1 pm

We invite you to a special Fellowship Hour as we celebrate the Holidays together. Santa will be joining us! Soup will be provided. Bring a family favorite treat to share.

Resistance Cinema Holiday Party

Sunday, December 16, 1:15 pm

The film to be shown is “DR. STRANGELOVE or How I learned to Stop Worrying and Love The Bomb”. Our annual holiday party features one of the funniest films ever made, an American classic dark comedy spoofing the inanities of the Cold War.

Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life – Book Study

Monday, December 17, and January 21, 7 pm

Previous participants resume their study of *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life* by the noted religious historian, Karen Armstrong. Our facilitators will be Rev. Susan Karlson, Minister of Unitarian Church of Staten Island and Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education. Class is now full-Registration is now closed.

Buddhism as a Spiritual Practice

Tuesday, December 19, and January 15, 6:30-8 pm, Chapel

This series of nine sessions will begin with a non-traditional presentation of the core ideas of the tradition and explore different schools of Buddhist thought and practice, using some video, chanting and various types of meditation as well as particular texts. While these sessions are not tied together exactly, the experience will be much richer if you attend all. Session one sets up the series. Contents of sessions 2-9 will be determined by how the previous session goes. Led by Rev. Orlanda Brugnola.

UU Christian Fellowship – Third Tuesdays of the month

December 19, and January 15, 7:30-9 pm

MNY-UUCF, a local chapter of the national UU Christian Fellowship (UUCF), is led by the Rev. Kelly Murphy Mason, a UU community minister and former Vice-President of the UUCF. The chapter meets the third Tuesday of every month at Community for fellowship and discussion, religious education, and spiritual deepening. All UUs in the District are invited to participate. The theme this year is Seeking the Soul of the Gospels.

HERE AT COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES 2012-2013 continues

Antiracistalliance.com Potluck – Friday, December 21, 5:30 pm

Esperanto Society – Friday, December 21, and January 18, 7 pm

Yoga with Eberly – Sunday, December 23, 1-2:30 pm

Join us for an introduction to gentle yoga and chanting led by church member Eberly Mareci. Eberly takes a flexible, playful, whole-hearted, and intelligent approach to yoga, particularly attuned to the person and the moment. The schedule for upcoming sessions will be decided at this class. Please RSVP to Esther Rosado at erosado@ccny.org or 212-683-4988.

Christmas Eve – December 24

Candellighting Sevice – 4:30 pm

Annual Händel's *Messiah* Concert – 7:30 pm

Christmas Dinner – Tuesday, December 25, 12 pm, Assembly Hall

We invite you to join us for our annual celebration, a delicious dinner hosted by Rev. Bruce Southworth and Kay Xanthakos.

Purchase tickets at the Welcome Table by Sunday, December 16

\$20 adults/\$7 children under 12.

Sipping and Searching – Wednesday, December 26, and January 23, 6:30 pm

Rev. Dr. Anthony Johnson will facilitate this popular discussion group. Join us for pizza, soft drinks, beer and great conversation.

Social Tea – Join us on January 29, 2-3 pm pm, Assembly Hall

Join us for conversation and light refreshments. Our guest speaker will be announced soon..

Introduction to Humanism 101 – Monday, January 28, 6:30 pm

A new Study Group will be facilitated by John Rafferty of the Secular Humanist Society of New York.

Secular Humanist Society of New York Book Club

Thursday, January 3, 6:30 pm, Front Lounge

The Best American Science Writing – 2012 - Ed. Michio Kaku

UN and Global Affairs Presentation – *Haiti – Alternative Fuels Changing Lives* – Rescheduled to Sunday, January 6, 1 pm

George Garland will be doing a presentation on his trip to Haiti in the Gallery at 1pm on November 4, sponsored by UN Global Affairs. We are working on two alternative fuels for the wood charcoal which has contributed to Haiti cutting down 98% of their forests. It also means cooking outdoors with dirty charcoal. Substitutes are ethanol and briquettes made from waste. The impact on women's lives is amazing for ethanol stoves: cook indoors, no smoke, much faster, no 50 pound bag of dirty charcoal, only a two liter jug of ethanol, stove can be on the kitchen.



FUND FOR HOLIDAY GREENS



Each holiday season, our worship space is transformed with fragrant pine, bright red poinsettias, all bathed in the glow of candlelight.

And in the Assembly Hall stands a Christmas tree decorated with beautiful ornaments, many of them handmade by the children.

You can help make this traditional beauty possible by making a contribution to the HOLIDAY GREENS.

All contributions will be acknowledged in the Community Connections.

YES, I would like to support the HOLIDAY GREENS.

Name: _____

Dedication (if desired) _____

Return to Community Church of NY, 40 East 35th Street, New York, N.Y. 10016

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____
(please mark envelope "Greens")

Events Calendar for December 2012

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1 10:45 First Saturday Feeding 1:00 Conflict Transformation... Skills 12:45 Messiah Rehearsal 8:00 Peoples' Voice Café SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:45 UN Global Affairs Mtg. 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:15 Holiday Crafts Fair MONDAY, DECEMBER 3 6:00 Buildings & Grounds TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4 3:00 Radical Crocheting 6:30 World Religions 7:00 Streetsingers WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5 6:00 Personnel Meeting THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6 6:30 Secular Humanist Soc. 7:00 Yoga Interpretations and Hindu Teachings 7:00 Reiki & Meditation	FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7 6:30 AntiRacism Team 7:00 Rev. Dr. Morrison-Reed SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8 12:45 Messiah Rehearsal 1:00 Rev. Dr. Morrison-Reed 8:00 Peoples' Voice Café SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Messiah Rehearsal 1:00 Community Circles 1:00 Rev. Dr. Morrison-Reed Forum TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11 7:00 Gallery35 Meeting 7:00 Streetsingers THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13 7:00 Reiki & Meditation 7:00 Yoga Interpretations and Hindu Teachings FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14 7:00 Green Sanctuary	SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15 12:45 Messiah Rehearsal 4:00 Gallery35 Holiday Art 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 RE Holiday Party Fellowship Hour 12:45 Messiah Rehearsal 1:15 Resistance Cinema Holiday Party MONDAY, DECEMBER 17 7:00 12 Steps to a Compassionate Life 6:30 NYC UU Ministers TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18 6:30 Buddhism As a Spiritual Practice 7:00 Streetsingers 7:30 UU Christian Fellowship WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19 6:00 Finance Meeting	THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20 6:30 Messiah Rehearsal 7:00 Yoga Interpretations and Hindu Teachings 7:00 Reiki & Meditation FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21 5:30 Antiracistalliance Potluck 7:00 Esperanto Society SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour 12:45 Yoga with Eberly MONDAY, DECEMBER 24 Church Office Closed 4:30 Candlelighting Service 7:30 Händel's <i>Messiah</i> Concert TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25 Christmas Day 12:00 Christmas Day Dinner	WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26 6:30 Sipping & Searching THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27 7:00 Reiki & Meditation SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29 8:00 People's Voice Café SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Fellowship Hour Kwanzaa MONDAY, DECEMBER 31 Church Office Closed New Year's Eve
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FOR MORE Adult Religious Education and Opportunities/Events Dec./Jan. see pages 8-10

Credits & Guidelines

Members are encouraged to submit articles to *Community Connections*. The submission deadline is typically the first Wednesday of the month prior to issue date. Submissions can be emailed to info@ccny.org or hand delivered to the Church. Articles submitted are subject to proofing and editing for clarity, brevity, grammar, punctuation, spelling and content.





Events Calendar for January 2013

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1 New Year's Day

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2

6:30 Board of Trustees Meeting

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3

6:30 Secular Humanist Society

7:00 Yoga Interpretations and Hindu Teaching

7:00 Reiki & Meditation

7:00 Gallery35 Meeting

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4

6:30 Antiracism Team

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5

10:45 First Saturday Feeding Program

8:00 People's Voice Café

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

9:30 Choir Rehearsal

9:45 UN Global Affairs

11:00 Morning Worship

11:00 Sunday School

12:00 Membership Holiday Potluck

12:15 Fellowship Hour

1:00 Action For Justice Forum

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8

7:00 Streetsingers

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9

6:00 Church Council

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10

7:00 Reiki & Meditations

7:00 Gallery35 Meeting

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11

7:30 Green Sanctuary Film Series

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

4:00 Gallery35 Opening Reception

8:00 People's Voice Café

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

9:30 Choir Rehearsal

11:00 Morning Worship

11:00 Sunday School

12:15 Fellowship Hour

12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal

1:00 Community Circles

1:15 Resistance Cinema

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15

7:00 Buddhism as a

Spiritual Practice

7:00 Streetsingers

7:30 UU Christian Fellowship

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16

6:00 Finance Committee Meeting

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17

6:30 Renew NY-Green Sanctuary

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18

7:30 Antiracistalliance.com Potluck

7:00 Esperanto Society

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

6:00 Membership Pizza & Poetry

8:00 People's Voice Café

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

9:30 Choir Rehearsal

11:00 Morning Worship

11:00 Sunday School

12:15 Fellowship Hour

12:45 Volunteer Choir Rehearsal

1:00 Volunteer Appreciation Day

MONDAY, JANUARY 21

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Church Office Closed

7:00 12 Steps to a Compassionate Life

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

7:00 Streetsingers

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

6:00 Board of Trustees

6:30 Sipping & Searching

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24

7:00 Reiki & Meditation

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

8:00 Peoples' Café

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

9:30 Choir Rehearsal

9:45 UN Global Affairs

11:00 Morning Worship

11:00 Sunday School

12:15 Fellowship Hour

12:45 **Congregational Meeting**

MONDAY, JANUARY 28

6:30 Introduction to Humanism 101

6:30 NYC UU Ministers

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29

2:00 Social Tea

7:00 Streetsingers

Rev. Bruce Southworth, Senior Minister
 Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education
 Gerald A. Brown, Director of Music
 Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator
 Rev. Dr. Anthony P. Johnson, Affiliated Minister
 Robert G. Martin, Business Administrator



**The Community Church of New York
 Unitarian Universalist**

40 East 35th Street
 New York, N.Y. 10016

**www.ccny.org
 Tel: 212.683.4988**

ISSUE: FORTY THREE

**Our Community, Here At Community, Opportunities, Calendars
 and much more...**

Deadline for February/March issue due January 2, 2013